

A  
DESCRIPTION  
OF  
*HOLLAND:*  
OR, THE  
PRESENT STATE  
OF THE  
UNITED PROVINCES.

Wherein is contained,

A Particular Account of the HAGUE, and  
all the Principal Cities and Towns of the  
REPUBLICK, with their Buildings,  
Curiosities, &c.

OF THE  
Manner and Customs of the DUTCH; their Consti-  
tution, Legislature, Sovereign Courts, Ministry, Revenue,  
Forces by Sea and Land, Navy, Admiralty, Bank, East-  
India Company, Navigation, Commerce, in Asia, Africa  
and America; and with Great-Britain, France, Spain,  
and the other States of Europe.

THEIR  
Universities, Arts, Sciences, Men of Letters, &c.

To which are added,  
Directions for making the TOUR of the *Provinces*.

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3 K R

## INTRODUCTION.

**I**N the most considerable Cities of Greece and Italy there were anciently Persons, called Antiquaries, whose Office it was to shew Strangers the Curiosities of the Places, and to explain antique Inscriptions, and every thing else of that kind of Erudition. This Institution was no less useful than honourable; the most knowing and learned of the Senate being generally pitched upon to exercise this Function, as a kind of publick Masters of the Ceremonies. They had fixed Salaries, and did the Honours of their respective Cities with so much grace and success, as to give the highest Satisfaction to the curious Stranger, who returned home with a great opinion of the politeness and learning of the Places he had visited. Pausanias calls these Antiquaries Conductors, Explainers, or Explainers of the Curiosities of their Country. The Sicilians called them Mistagogues.

In later times this Office has very much degenerated, and taken another turn. In several Cities of Italy at this day Travelers of note are waited upon on the part of

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*the Senate, and have Wine and other Refreshments sent to their Lodgings. In the Empire, at the Palatine, and other Courts, they are carried to the Cellars to drink at the great Tuns; and at Hamburgh, to the publick Vault, to be treated with old Hock very liberally, in the Company of the Magistrate.*

*At Rome however there are still some remains of this ancient Custom, in a kind of Guides, called Cicero's. Their Business is to conduct Strangers about the City, and to shew them the most remarkable Structures ancient and modern. They are generally ignorant Men, and have no Appointment from the State. There are the same kind of People at Paris, Antwerp, Brussels, &c. They are Retainers to the Inns, wait the coming in of Stage-coaches, and offer their Service to Strangers.*

*But the judicious Traveller is far from trusting to this sort of Guides. Before he sets out, he informs himself by Reading and Conversation; and carries with him the best-wrote Books upon the Places he intends to visit. At his leisure he amuses himself with comparing such Accounts, or Descriptions, with the Originals upon the Spot.*

*The vast variety of new Objects he meets with*



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*with almost every where, are like the Heathen Idols; they have Mouths, but speak not. The finest Pictures, the most exquisite Statues, the most magnificent Buildings, cannot inform him; who made them; and wherein their peculiar Excellencies consist. This is to be had only from such as have examined them with Judgment, and taken the Pains to describe them accurately.*

*The Hague, and other Places of Holland described in the following Sheets, want many of the Curiosities and antique Monuments, which have so much recommended the Works of modern Writers, and are so capable of embellishing and enriching Narratives. Amphitheatres, Triumphal Arches, Obelisks, Columns, Baths, Grottos, Catacombs, &c. are unknown in these, as well as in the other modern Cities of the World. Magnificent Churches, splendid Altars, and pompous Processions, which in Roman Catholick Countries engage the Curiosity of Travellers, and afford great matter of Description, are not the Subjects of a Pen employed in describing Protestant Cities.*

*Notwithstanding all these Disadvantages, I will venture to say, that the Hague, with the small Province it lies in, and the other Towns and Cities of Holland, exhibit a more wonderful*

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*wonderful Scene to a Person of reflection, than Rome herself in her sacred Pageantry, and the Magnificence of her antique Ruins.*

*In them he sees a wonderful Neatness and noble Simplicity in all things; which please him more than those Objects, that seem intended solely to strike and amaze him. Here Works of real use and emolument to the Publick abound; there Works of Luxury and Fancy. The Citizens of Holland see their Money laid out by the Magistrate on every thing that can render their Lives agreeable and happy; the Citizens both of old and new Rome are crush'd under a load of Taxations to aggrandize a few, and enable them to lay still heavier Loads upon them. Instead of Amphitheatres and Circus's, for the cruel Sport of destroying the human Species; in the Dutch Dykes and Sluices are seen stupendious Works of no less Art and Grandeur, for the safety and preservation of the People. This Spot exhibits great examples of Ingenuity, Application, and Virtue; the other, a Race sunk in Sloth, Voluptuousness, Effeminacy, and Poverty.*

*If we carry our Views farther, and consider the Roman and Belgick Commonwealths, we perceive the latter making greater advances towards the establishment of her Opulence*

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*pulence and Grandeur in few Tears, than the other was able to do in several Ages. A whole Nation seems (to use the Expression,) to be born at once, and a beautiful well-cultivated Region (like the Creation in the Phœnician System) rising out of the Bosom of the Deep. The wisest Nations of Europe stand amazed at the new Scene, and can find no Parallel in the Annals of the World, ancient or modern. An handful of oppressed, unhappy Men make head against four mighty Tyrants, of whom each has successively made not only Nations, but all Europe tremble; and after obtaining glorious Victories over them, at length establish their Rights and Liberties, and transmit those inestimable Blessings to their Posterity. One cannot run over their amazing, but short History, without conceiving a great Veneration for the Nobility of this Country, that stood up in Defence of the People's Rights; and especially for the illustrious Princes of Nassau Orange, who by their Wisdom and Valour animated both the Nobility and People, and founded a glorious Commonwealth, from which all they desired was, that themselves, and their Posterity might be considered as its Friends and Defenders.*

*The Reader will find these, and subjects of this kind, occasionally interspersed in the following*

*lowing*



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*lowing Narration. Mere Descriptions of Palaces and Buildings are too dry and unaf-  
fecting, when not attended with important  
Circumstances, and historical Facts relating  
to them: To look on and gaze only, is too  
narrow an Employment for an intelligent  
Being; to reflect upon, and improve from the  
Objects that occur, is the proper Exercise of  
the rational Mind.*

*The Subject of the following Sheets abounds  
with Amusement, Delight, and Instruction,  
and deserved a better Pen than his who has  
attempted it; and it is none of his Fault  
that it had not one. As there is no particu-  
lar Description of the Hague, that he knew  
of, tho' the Place is famous throughout the  
World, he has often desired ingenious Na-  
tives to oblige the Publick with an Account  
of it; but they have always excused them-  
selves, and referred that Work to him. Their  
general Reason for it was, that as he was  
not of the Country, he would write of Per-  
sons, Customs, and other Things, with more  
impartiality, and a stricter regard to Truth,  
than their particular Attachments, national  
Prejudices, and other Biasses would well  
admit; and indeed, than they cared to do,  
in a Country, which notwithstanding its  
boasted Liberty, has instanced its being highly  
sensible in point of Honour.*

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*In this manner the Author was engaged in the Work; and he has only to add in his own Excuse, and for the Reader's Satisfaction, that he has resided at the Hague, and in the Provinces, almost from his Infancy, and that this Volume is the growth of several Years, and much Observation. He has never received any particular Favours, or causes of Disgust, from the People, of whom he writes; and all his Descriptions are made on the Spot: And therefore he conceives the few superficial Things, said transiently by Voyage-writers, on the Hague and the rest of Holland, should not hinder the Bulk of the present Relation from being considered, as a new and original Work; which indeed it is. On the Government of the Republick, he would willingly have referred the Reader to Grotius, Bynkershoeck, Sir William Temple, and Basnage; but that he could not do intirely, without leaving considerable Chasms in his Narration; it may however not be amiss to say here, that the ipsissima Reipublicæ fundamenta are to be found in the two first of those eminent Writers.*

*As it highly concerns the British Nation to be perfectly well acquainted with the Disposition, Maxims, and Strength of so considerable a State and Ally as the United Provinces; the Author, besides proper In-*  
a
formations

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*formations from Persons in Office, and others, has gone himself to the Stations of the Navy, and to the Fortresses and Barrier Towns, in order to be capable of speaking with the greater certainty upon the present State of the Strength of the Republick.*

*Nor has there been less Attention bestowed on the present State of her Commerce, and particularly that part of it, carried on between the Provinces and Great Britain. The particulars specified under that head, were collected in the Ports themselves, and from those who had a principal Share in the Trade on both Sides. I might on this Article have taken occasion to enter into a long Detail, but that was not consistent with the principal Subject of these Sheets.*

*The Anecdotes relating to Ambassadors and other Ministers; to Men of Letters, and the present State of the Arts and Sciences in that Seat of Politicks and Learning, the Hague, will not, it is hoped, be disagreeable to the ingenious Reader.*

*To conclude, the Author's chief Intention has been to be exact and full; and he has taken into his Plan, as far as the Limits of so small a Volume would admit, every thing that he conceived proper to diversify and enrich his Subject.*

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## E R R A T A.

**P**AGE 70. After the Words *Lords and Commons*, add the following short Paragraph.

The CHAMBER OF ACCOUNTS examines, and controuls all the Accounts of the several Receivers. It is composed of two Deputies from each Province, who are changed every three Years.

Page 409. For, *which is only seven Leagues, or twenty one Miles*, read, *where the Sea is only seven Leagues, or twenty one Miles over*.

A  
DESCRIPTION  
OF  
HOLLAND.

CHAPTER I.

*The HAGUE described.*

**T**HE *Hague* is justly esteemed one of the finest Towns in *Europe*. Those who have either seen, or occasionally wrote of it, seem at a Loss for Words to express their Admiration. An ingenious Gentleman, Fellow of the Royal Society, speaking of this Place, when it was nothing to what it is now, expresses himself thus:  
“ \* And now let us enter the *Hague*, the delicatest  
“ Borough in the whole World, as all those  
“ who have seen any Thing abroad willingly  
“ confess: A Place, which, for the Breadth of

\* *Present State of the United Provinces of the Low Countries.* By W. A. F. R. S. London, 1669.



“ the Streets, the Nobleness of its Buildings,  
“ the Beauty of its Canals, the pleasant Shade of  
“ its Trees, and the Civility of its Inhabitants,  
“ may justly claim the Title of the most pleasant  
“ Seat in the World, and make all Men envy  
“ the Happiness of those that live in it.”

This beautiful Place lies in the Centre of a great Number of fine Cities and Villages, with which it has an easy Communication by Canals, on the Sides of which a thousand agreeable Objects perpetually rise up, that make the Journies on them seem too short. For wherever the Passenger turns his Eyes, he sees either beautiful Country-Houses, magnificent Gardens, fine Meadows, or charming Villages.

The *Hague* stands on a dry Soil, somewhat higher than the rest of the Country. But that Elevation is not so considerable as to occasion any sensible Change in the Course of the Waters, or Inconvenience to the Passage-Boats, which sail to and from the *Hague* with equal Facility.

The Inhabitants breath a better Air than those of the other Cities; and have more agreeable Scenes without the Town for Health and Recreation. On the South is a large Extent of fine Meadows, and the City of *Delft*; on the East is the principal Canal; on the North a pleasant Wood; and on the West the Walk to *Scheveling* and the Sea. And indeed, go which Way one will, one always finds delightful Paths, or Walks paved with Bricks, and shaded with several Rows  
of

of Trees; so that the Neighbourhood of the *Hague* exhibits, on all Sides of it, whatever can form a fine Landscape.

It lies in Lat. 51, 15. about one Degree North of *London*; so that it can neither be excessively cold in the Winter, nor hot in the Summer. The Winters here are however somewhat longer and colder than with us; because the Wind from the Eastward comes to them over an exceedingly dry Continent of 5 or 6000 Miles from *China* and *Japan*; but are moistened by the Vapours, or softened by the Warmth, occasioned by the Motion of the Sea, before they reach us. And on the other hand, our Summers are commonly cooler, in Effect of the refreshing Breezes from the Ocean, which in a Manner fan the Inhabitants of our happy Island.

The *Hague* is called in Latin *Haga Comitis*, in French *La Haye*, and in Dutch *s'Gravenhage*, that is, the Earl's Grove or Wood; alluding to a Wood that formerly grew here, where the Earls or Counts of *Holland* had a Country-House.

The *Hague* is little mentioned till about the Year 1250, when *William II.* Count of *Holland*, and King of the *Romans*, removed his Court thither from *Gravesant*, a Village twelve Miles distant. From that Time it has always been the Seat of the Government, and, since the Commencement of the Republick in 1579, it may be reckoned the Capital of the Seven Provinces; tho' indeed it is called only a Village, because it

#### 4 A DESCRIPTION

is not walled, and sends no Deputies to the States. It is however a better Town than many Cities, which enjoy that Privilege; and for Extent, Number of People, and Opulence, may be rank'd amongst the best Cities of *Europe* of the second Class. It requires almost two Hours to walk round it; and contains above 5000 Houses, inhabited by 40 or 50,000 Souls.

It is furrounded by a beautiful Canal, over which there are several fine Draw-bridges; but those Bridges are never drawn up, so that one may enter the *Hague* at all Hours. This Canal is border'd on one Side, and in some Places on both, by a Walk of lofty and shady Trees,

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*Principal*



*Principal Streets and publick Buildings of the HAGUE.*

**M**ANY of the Streets and publick Places of the *Hague* are so exceedingly spacious and airy, and so much adorned with Water and Trees, that one is sometimes apt to think oneself in a real Village, enjoying the Pleasures of Solitude, tho' actually in the midst of a magnificent City.

The Palace or Court, which was built in 1250 by the forementioned *William II.* Count of *Holland* and King of the *Romans*, stands almost in the Centre of the *Hague*. It is moated about on three Sides, and on the fourth is washed by the *Vyver*. There are three Entrances into it over so many Draw-bridges, which might be drawn up in Case of a Tumult. The Court is large and almost Square; and in it before the Guard-House stands a very great Tree, which was planted by one of the Princes of *Orange*. The Buildings are old, irregular, and not very magnificent. The Stadholders resided here; and the States General, the States of the Province of *Holland*, the Council of State, the Council of the Nobility and the sovereign Courts of Justice, hold their Assemblies here in different Apartments.

There is very little Noise of Coaches, or Thronging of Servants, &c. seen here, even

whilst the States General are sitting; nor would one know any Thing of it, except one were told so, or in the Coffee-Houses read in the News-Papers, that their High Mightinesses were assembled. The Deputies of the States so called, are plain Men, drest no otherwise than other decent Citizens. They never are seen with more than one Servant, and are usually on Foot, and alone in the Streets. The Appearance of these wise Rulers makes one call to Mind the noble Simplicity of the ancient *Romans* in the glorious times of their Commonwealth. Strangers judge of the manly Plainness they see here, according to the false or true Idea they have formed of Grandeur. The People however are extremely pleased with it; because it is at least a Proof, that their Money is not applied to maintain Equipages and the idle Pomp and Glare of particular Persons.

The *Autographa*, or authentick Instruments of the *Dutch* Version of the Bible, are kept here in a strong Chest; and there are other Acts of the same Kind deposited in the Town-House of *Leyden*. The Deputies of the Synod of the United Provinces, attended by those of the States, visit these sacred Records every three Years. This gives the Curious an Opportunity of getting the necessary Information for solving any Difficulties that arise in the various Editions, published from time to time, of the Holy Scriptures.

Some Years ago the Lawyers of the *Hague* had Thoughts of erecting a Library in a large Room

Room here. It was to be done upon the same Plan as that of the Advocates at *Edinburgh*. But notwithstanding the Advantages of such Institutions upon the Continent, and particularly in *Holland*, where the Natives are perpetually printing vast Numbers of Books in all Languages and Faculties, it would be a great while before the *Hague* Library came up to the Perfection of the other. And it may be questioned, whether every *Dutch* Advocate, on putting on the Gown, would be willing to pay forty Pounds (above 400 Guilders) towards the Support of that new Institution. The Advocates of *North-Britain*, as I have been assured, contribute no less for that use on their Admission; which, with its fine Apartments, the Abilities and Care of the Keepers, and the curious and extensive Learning of the Body, have render'd that Library very considerable.

The *French* Church is also here; and a great Hall of gross *Gothick* Architecture, which is the most conspicuous Building of the Place, but with no happy Effect.

The Entrances into the several Chambers of the States are through this Hall, which answer to that of *Westminster*, tho' it is far from being so magnificent. It is roofed with Wood brought from *Ireland*, which was believed to be Proof against Rottenness; and indeed, tho' this Building is five or six hundred Years old, the Wood is found and fresh enough. The Roof of *Westminster-Hall* was, we are told, brought also from



the same Country. Some Naturalists of *Ireland* ascribe this kind of incorruptible Quality to natural Causes; but the *Roman* Catholicks to the Benediction of their Patron Saint *Patrick*. The Walls of this Hall are hung with Colours, Drums, and other Trophies of Victory, taken from the *Spaniards*, *French*, and other Enemies of the Commonwealth. The Names of the Battles are wrote underneath them; as *Hockstadt*, *Ramellies*, *Malplaquet*. In the midst of the Hall there is a Scaffold or wooden Structure, where the State-Lotteries are drawn by Hospital-Boys as in *London*. There are also several Stationers-Shops in it.

The Chamber, where the States assemble, is plain enough. It is hung with Green Cloth. On one Side are the Pictures of the five Princes of *Orange*, Stadholders of *Holland*; *William I.* *Maurice*, *Frederick-Henry*, *William II.* and *William III.* King of *Great-Britain*: They are placed in the Order set down, and are exquisitely well done at full Length. At the Head of the Room over the Chimney is the Picture of *Prudence*, and at the opposite End that of *Fortitude*. In a Corner of it there is a Weather-Glass, of which the Frame is much admired for the Sculpture. In the Windows lie several Books of Maps in Readiness to be consulted on Occasion. The Table, at which the Members sit, is long, and covered with Green Cloth, with Pens, Ink, and Paper upon it. There is Room at it for about thirty Persons, which is the usual Number of this sovereign  
reign

reign Council. Neither Stadholder, Governour, nor any military Officer, are allowed to sit in the Assembly of the States General. As each Province presides a Week in its Turn, the Person best qualified amongst the Deputies of that Province is chosen President, and sits in an Elbow Chair at the Middle of the Table. The *Greffier* or Secretary sits at the lower End. When a Foreign Minister has Audience, he is seated at the middle of the Table, opposite to the President, with his Face to the Light.

The States other Room, which is very beautiful and magnificent, is called the Chamber of the Truce; because the Truce for 12 Years between the Republick and the *Spaniards* was concluded in it, 1609. It is very luminous; and the Windows, which are grand, front the *Vyver* and *Vyverberg*. At the upper End is the Picture of King *William III.* who was Stadholder of *Holland*, and King of *Great-Britain* at the same Time; but he made very little Use of his Power, and left every Thing to the States themselves. They asked him Leave to set up his Picture in this conspicuous Place of their Assemblies, and obtained it with some Difficulty. He was a modest Prince, and despised Flattery and Vain-glory, as much as he pursued that which is solid and real. This Picture is reckoned the best that was ever done of that great King. The Carpet in it, on which the Chair of State stands, is particularly admir'd; but there is no Part of this noble

noble Piece, that is not equally estimable. Over the Door there is a *Liberty*, also very well done. Embassadors have their Conferences, and publick Audiences of the States, in this grand Chamber; in the midst of which stands a large and magnificent Table, set round with Chairs.

A pleasant Circumstance happened not long since in this Apartment at a publick Audience given the *Morocco* Embassador on his Arrival by the States. The Ladies desired that they might be admitted on that Occasion. As the Thing was a Matter of mere Form and Ceremony, they were indulged in their Request. When the Embassador approached, the Ladies, who were very richly drest, opened and formed a Lane, thro' which he passed: The mutual Compliments being over between the Ministry and the Embassador; his Excellency turned about towards the Ladies, and after having viewed them with some Attention, he told the States, that he presumed these were their High Mightinesses *Seraglio*; applauded their Taste, and declared, he had never seen so beautiful a Sight in his whole Life. The Assembly could scarce forbear an Horse-laugh; but they made shift to keep it in, till his Excellency withdrew; when Secretary *Fagel*, notwithstanding his very great Age, said some lively Things, that almost put the Ladies to the Blush.

Near this Chamber is a little Room, to which the Ministers withdraw for private Conferences:

It



It is very plain, and has round it several small but fine Pictures, done by the famous *Hans Holben*.

Adjoining to these Apartments of the States are the Courts of Justice, where one that understands *Low-Dutch*, may pass a vacant Hour to hear the Pleadings, and observe the Forms of Law in Practice.

Close to the Court is the Palace or Hotel of Prince *Maurice* of *Orange*. He built it after his Return from his Government of *Brazil*, about 1650. It stands pleasantly on the *Vyver*, and is the handsomest Piece of modern Architecture at the *Hague*. It is neither very large, nor overcharged with Sculptures: It has just enough of those Ornaments to argue the exquisite Taste of the Builder. He embellished it with the most curious Productions of the *Indies*; but all those fine Things were entirely consumed by Fire in 1707. However, as only the Timber-Work of the Building was burnt, it was repaired by those, who had a Mortgage upon it. The Government hire it of them, for lodging Embassadors during the three Days the States defray their Expences, and for other publick Uses. King *Charles II.* was lodged here many Days before he set out on his Return to his Dominions.

The same Prince *Maurice* was afterwards Governor of *Cleves*, under the Elector of *Brandenburg*, and adorned one half of that Dutchy, and particularly the Places adjacent to the Capital, with so many regular Plantations, magnificent Walks,

Walks, Parks, and Water-works, as rendered the Country a kind of Paradise. That great Man, tired of the Hurry and Pomp of State, built himself a little House in a Wood, about a Mile out of the Town of *Cleves*, where he spent the last Years of a glorious Life. By his own Order he was buried near it, in an Hollow of the Wood, under a large Stone of black Marble, with an Inscription. Near this Stone stands a fine Collection of old *Roman* Urns, and other Monuments of Antiquity, made by this great Genius. The Inscriptions on them, thro' length of Time, are so much effaced that it is very hard to understand them. This Collection, tho' the noblest on this Side of the Alps, is omitted by *Gruterus*.

'T BvyTEN Hof, or Outer Court, is much larger and more open than the Inner. The Horse-Guards draw up here, as the Foot do in the Inner Court. The Former do no Duty, except whilst the States are sitting. They are cloathed in blue, fac'd with red, are very finely mounted, and make a good Appearance. Their Horses are of a larger Size, a more exquisite black Colour, and far more beautiful to the Eye than the *Englisb*; tho' the Latter are reckoned more hardy and fitter for long Marches. The Troops of the *Dutch*, *French*, and most of the other Princes of *Europe*, are cloathed either in blue or in white; which are far from making so fine a Shew in the Field as red, the Livery of the *Englisb*.  
The

The Guards are relieved in this Court every Afternoon.

The most remarkable House here is that of the Countess Dowager of *Albemarle*, the present Earl's Mother. She is esteemed the first Lady of the *Hague*, and is Sister of the *Vander Duin*, Nobles of *Holland*; but her Rank and Extraction are not so much to be considered as her Merit, and decent and elegant Manner of Living. The late Earl, one of the favourite Ministers of King *William III.* was of the *Keppel* Family, which has given many Persons of distinguish'd Merit to the Republick. He was General of the *Dutch* Infantry, and Governor of *Tournay*; was made a Peer by the King. The Earl of *Portland*, another *Dutch* Gentleman, was, as every Body knows, the other Favourite of that Prince.

At the *Gevang Poorts*, thro' which one goes out of the Outer Court into the *Plaats*, is the Prison, where the *De Witts* met their Fate. This Place is always shewn to Strangers. The Catastrophe of those two great Men is still the Subject of Conversation in *Holland*, and does not seem to be forgotten by most of the other Nations of *Europe*. The *Dutch* talk and write of it in the Spirit of Party. The best they could do, would be to bury the whole Affair in Oblivion. It must however be confessed, that neither they nor any other Nation ought to be charged with the Fault of Individuals, or the Fury of a Mob: For that this was chiefly the Act of a Mob is evident from  
all



all the good Accounts that have been given of it. The true Matter of Fact seems to have been as follows.

A Barber-Surgeon came to the Prince of *Orange's* Camp, and informed the Lord *Zuylestein*, the Prince's natural Uncle, that *Cornelius De Witt*, Burgomaster of *Dort*, and Brother to the great Pensionary *John De Witt*, had given him Money to make away with the Prince; because as he said, the Republick could not otherwise preserve her Liberty. Upon this Information the Court of *Holland* committed *De Witt* to Prison; and on the Evidence of the Surgeon condemned him to lose all his Offices and Employments, and banished him from *Holland* and *West Friesland* for ever. The People who believed they were betrayed by *De Witt* to the *French* King, looked upon this as a Design rather for sending him out of the Way, than as a Sentence against him. However *De Witt's* Wife and Friends presented several Petitions and Remonstrances to the Court in his Vindication. They insisted upon the well-known Services he had done the State for many Years; that he was but just returned from on board the Fleet, where his very Enemies, and amongst them *De Ruyter*, could attest his Conduct and Courage. They alledged also the whole Tenor of his Life and Conversation; and referred to the Records of several Courts, wherein the Surgeon had been convicted of Perjury and Calumniating several Persons

sons of Note: In a Word, they proved him a most profligate Fellow. However, the Sentence which was adapted rather to the Conjunction than to the strict Rules of Justice, was confirmed, the Surgeon set at Liberty, and the Mob enflamed by him began to murmur and grow tumultuous about the Prison Door. In the midst of this Uproar, the Pensionary very imprudently came in his own Coach to carry his Brother out of Town, which looked like a Triumph over the Sentence: But as he was bringing him out of the Prison, the Mob would not suffer them to come out. The Pensionary upon that spoke to them with Authority to forbear; but they forced them both in again, and obliged their Coach to drive off, in which, it is said, their Father waited, in order to have carried them to Dinner before they set out. The Tumult encreased perpetually; and a Report spreading that *Cornelius* had escaped, the People could not be pacified, till two of the Burgomasters and four Burghers went in, who satisfied them to the contrary. The Pensionary prevailed on the two Magistrates to dine with him and his Brother; and in the mean Time the Companies of Burghers came in Arms, and drew up about the Prison to keep the Peace: But it was evident that some of the principal of them were no Friends to the *De Witts*, and not very solicitous about their Preservation. Three Troops of Horse, which lay then in the *Hague*, stood also to their Arms. One of them marched to  
the

the usual Place of Rendezvous, and the other two endeavoured to get into the Outer Court, but were kept off by the armed Rabble, who got upon the Tops of the neighbouring Houses, to see that neither of the *De Witts* escaped. At last with Muskets and Smiths Hammers they broke open the Prison-Doors, and went to the Chamber where the Brothers were. They found the Pensionary reading in his Bible, and his Brother laid down in his Night-Gown. The Pensionary asked them what they wanted, and why all that Violence? One of them answered, you must come down; for we will have your Lives. *Cornelius* rising from the Bed, spoke roughly to the Fellow, and bid him get down: But at length the Pensionary seeing that no Reasons would do, he took his Brother by the Hand to go down, and on the Stairs was wounded with a Pike above the Eye: At that Instant he lifted up his Hands and Eyes to Heaven, recommending his Soul to God; and immediately after was hurried away by the Mob to the very Place, where he had been assassinated two Months before, and there barbarously murther'd, covering his Face with his Cloak, and saying for his last Words, *Well Men, well Citizens*. His Brother immediately after had the same Fate.

Thus fell these two great Men by popular Fury, *Cornelius* in the 49th, and the Pensionary in the 47th Year of his Age, formerly as much beloved as now hated by the People, who considered



dered them as the Cause of all Calamities their Country suffered at that time. All Historians agree, that the Cause of their Ruin was the too great Opposition they made to the Advancement of the Prince of *Orange*, King *William III.* And Sir *William Temple* seems to be of the same Opinion, who in his Chapter on *The Causes of the Fall of the Republic*, refers it chiefly to that Opposition. He observes, that the States of *Holland* from their Alliance with *England* in 1668, had engaged to advance the \* Prince, and that the other six Provinces were heartily for it: That the *De Witts*, who were at the Helm, neglected the Army, and applied themselves solely to strengthening the Fleet. “ Perhaps content (says Sir “ *William*) that some ill Successes should attend “ the Prince at his first Entrance upon the Com- “ mand of their Army, and thereby contribute “ to their Designs of restraining him. — This “ indeed was not likely to fail; for they had “ worked out by Degrees all the old Officers, “ who were thought affectionate to the Family,

\* The two Brothers having been long in Power, began at last to grow haughty, and to dictate to the States of the Province; which could not fail to make them many Enemies. Bishop *Burnet*, and other good Historians observe, that the Great Pensionary had in a manner suppressed the Council of State, and taken the whole Management of Affairs upon himself, which excited much deserved Indignation against him; for that was assuming the Dictator, or Stadholder, with a witness: So that he was for exercising a Power himself, which he was against having lodged in another, who had certainly a much better Right to it, than any private Citizen could have.

C

“ and

“ and filled the Commands of the Army with  
“ the Sons or Kinsmen of Burgomasters and  
“ other Officers and Deputies of the Province.”  
Thus at the Time that *Lewis* XIV. attacked  
them, “ their Towns without Order, their  
“ Burghers without Obedience, their Soldiers  
“ without Discipline, and all without Life. —  
“ But the Kindness to the young Prince, both in the  
“ People and Army, was not to be dissolved by  
“ any Medicines or Operations either of Rigour  
“ or Artifice.” And the Author of the *Lives* of  
the *De Witts* does not dissemble the great Opposi-  
tion made to the Prince’s Advancement to the  
Dignities of his Ancestors, and how disagreeable  
that was to the People in general. And indeed  
they were fully persuaded, that if there was any  
Safety for them, it was to be expected only from  
one of that Family, which had so often extricated  
them out of the greatest Dangers, and to which,  
under Heaven, they owed their Being as a State,  
and that entire Liberty which they then enjoyed.  
Nor were these Expectations vain. The Prince  
was no sooner placed at the Head of the Army,  
than the State assumed new Life; and his first  
Steps were attended with an incredible, or rather  
miraculous Success. For were it not ascribing  
too much to him, to believe that a Youth, not  
two and twenty, at the Head of 18,000 raw  
Men, could do such great Things; could stop  
the Career of a mighty Monarch, who had  
planted his victorious Ensigns in the very Heart  
of

of the Provinces, and made an absolute Conquest of four of them in the Space of two Months; and not only stop, but force him, his great \* Generals (the greatest *France* ever produced) and numerous veteran Armies, to give way, and retire to their own Frontiers almost as fast as they had quitted them? Posterity will never believe the Transactions of the memorable Year 1672, if Heaven be not acknowledged in them. — But to return to our Subject.

*De Plaats* is an open airy Place, almost in the Form of a Triangle: It has no Trees, but is sufficiently adorned with neat and beautiful Houses. Criminals of any Eminence are executed here on a Scaffold erected for that Purpose. Their Heads are struck off with a Sword at one Blow, the Executioner hardly ever repeating it; so that there is no mangling here, as there has been on *Tower-hill*. I saw an Officer executed here for Murder, or rather for defending himself against one that attacked him with a naked Sword, whom he had the Misfortune to kill. The Law called *se defendendo*, is not known in this Country. The Sentence was executed two Days after it was past. The Officer was carried under a Guard of Soldiers from the Prison to the Stathouse, in order to make Confession before the Magistrates: But he

\* The Marshal *Turenne*, the Prince of *Conde*, and the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, who had each a numerous Army, besides the Presence of *Lewis XIV.* to animate it. *Holland* was never brought so near its Destruction as at this terrible Crisis.



had nothing to confess, except that he was first set upon, and that he must either kill or be killed. He was told, that he could not be ignorant of the Law of his Country, which obliges the Person attack'd to fly, and not to draw his Sword till the last Extremity, that is, when he could fly no farther, being hindered by a Wall, Canal, or the like. To this the Captain made no Reply; but no doubt thought it a Law very hard upon one of his Profession, or indeed any Man of Spirit. From the Stathouse he was carried to the Place of Execution, attended by two Ministers. In about half an Hour all was over. They prayed, exhorted the dying Person, and sung a Psalm. The Executioner came from *Dort*, was a rich Man, a Surgeon by Profession, and had two Servants. He brandished a great broad Sword, and severed the Head from the Body at one Blow with an Air. He seemed sure of his Mark; but gave so much Strength to the Action, that he almost threw himself over the Scaffold. He stood behind the Officer (for one can hardly call him a Criminal) who kneeled with a Napkin over his Face. This kind of Justice (or rather Law) astonishes Strangers, and especially the *English*: For in this Case the Justice of God, the Law of Laws, absolves the Person; and that of *Holland*, whilst it laments, condemns him. The Government believe such a Law the only Means for saving the Lives of Multitudes of their Subjects, and therefore sacrifice Individuals

to the publick Safety; judging it more expedient that one should suffer, than many be \* destroyed.

The *Plaats* opens to the VYVERBERG, which in my Opinion is the most agreeable Part of the HAGUE. It is called *Berg*, or Hill, because it is an Eminence made with the Earth dug out of the *Vyver*, or large Bason of Water at the Bottom of it. It consists of several fine shady Walks, with Seats in them, and has on one Side a row of handfom Buildings, and on the other the *Vyver*, which affords a very grateful Prospect on a Summer's Day. The *Vyver* is handfomly faced with Stone, 200 Paces long, and near 100 broad. It

\* Premeditated Murder is commonly punished by breaking on the Wheel. The Criminal is laid on his Back on a proper wooden Frame, to which his Arms and Legs are made fast with Cords, and which lies down on the Scaffold. This Kind of Death has more of Terror than Pain in it. The Executioner first strangles the Malefactor, so as to put him next to entirely out of Pain; after which he breaks his Arms and Legs at four different Blows with a long round Bar of Iron: The fifth Blow, or *Coup de Grace* as they call it, is the finishing Stroke on the Breast. I saw a rich Farmer executed in this Manner at *Delft*. The *Scout* or Judge-criminal was practised upon, and 100,000 Guilders, or 10,000 *l.* offered for saving his Life. The Farmer, who was a *Roman Catholick*, was allowed no Priest of his own, and would accept of no other. He was bade to sing a Psalm to himself, but was in no Disposition for Musick. And indeed there is something preposterous enough in the Custom of making dying Men sing. It is contrary to the Apostle's Advice, who enjoins singing Psalms only to such as are merry. They punish here by Whipping in this Manner: They set up a Post upon a Scaffold, to which they tie the Criminal's Hands as high up as they can; they then put an iron Band round his Waist to keep him fast: And in that Manner he receives as many Lashes as the Judges appoint.

washes the back Part of the Court, and Prince *Maurice's* House. There is a pretty Island in the Middle of it, planted with a Tuft of Trees. At one of the Corners stand two large Buildings called *Dol-houfes*, where the Burghers have their Assemblies and publick Entertainments. The Bason lately dug at *Middleburg* is twice as large, but does not lie so finely as the *Vyver*. The *Voorhout* has not this Ornament, of which the most remarkable Building is the *Hof*, or Palace of *Friesland*, that belongs to the Prince of *Orange*. It was built by one of his Ancestors, and is dark and decayed; for which Reason his Highness when he comes to the *Hague* does not live in it, but in a hired House on the *Plain*. King *William* had a magnificent Palace in the *Hague*, of which we shall speak in its Place; but that fell to the King of *Prussia*. A little beyond the *Hof van Friesland*, at the Corner of the *Vyverberg*, is the *Logement van Dort*, where the Deputies of that City reside when they come to the *Hague*. The Deputies of most of the other Cities of the Province have Houses here, but none of them considerable enough to merit a particular Description.

The *Vyverberg* terminates here in a very spacious Opening, which takes in part of the *Voorhout*, and is full of regular Plantations and Gardens, that seem a real Forest, till we observe the Rows of fine Houses, or rather Palaces, on all Sides behind them. There is another Avenue to the  
*Voorhout*



*Voorhout* from the *Plaats* thro' a magnificent shady Street, called the *Kneuter-dyk*.

The \* *Voorhout* is the most celebrated Part of the *Hague*. It consists of the *Mall*, and three Ways for Coaches on each Side; beyond which are two parallel Rows of magnificent Houses, chiefly occupied by the foreign Ministers, and Persons of the first Quality of the *Hague*. It was the Emperor *Charles V.* who caused the Trees to be planted here in 1536.

The *Mall* is railed in on both Sides. It is as broad, but not so long as that of *St. James's* in *London*, or the magnificent one at *Utrecht*. It is strewn with Cockle Shells, brought from the Sea-coast at *Scheveling*, which make a Noise when walked upon, that sets one's Teeth on edge. The Want of Gravel is a great Defect in this beautiful Walk, and is common to it with all the Gardens throughout the Province, which is strange enough; for Gravel in abundance may be had from *England*; and even from the Banks of the *Maese*, at no greater Distance than the *Grave*, *Moock*, and *Venlo*, by way of Ballast to Vessels, at no great Expence. One would imagine that a People, who spare no Cost on their publick

\* So called, because formerly the Entrance into the Wood, *Voor* signifying before, and *hout*, or *bond*, Wood. The two *English* Words come from the *Dutch*; as half, if not two Thirds of our Language do. The Difference, is that the *English* is softened with Liquids, and Vowels instead of Consonants, where the Identity of the two Languages would admit the Alteration.

Walks and Gardens, should let them want so essential an Ornament. The royal Gardens of *France* have the same Inconvenience with those of *Holland*. The adorning this Part of the *Hague* with Statues and other Embellishments has been talked of: But the elegant Simplicity of it has certain Graces, which the Spectator feels better than he can describe, and tacitly prefers to studied Ornament and Shew.

The *Voorhout* is the same Thing here, as St. *James's Park* at *London*, or the *Tuilleries* at *Paris*; only there is a much greater Resort of good Company to the two last, than to the first, which is now a mere Desert. The Taste of the Place is quite changed. When I first came to the *Hague*, there was a fine Appearance of Coaches perpetually driving round this beautiful Spot, and the *Mall* was crowded with the *Beau-monde* on foot. But this Pleasure, with which I was formerly so much captivated, is no longer the Mode. Excessive Gaming has succeeded it, and is now become the reigning Passion of the Place.

The most remarkable Buildings here are at the upper End of the *Mall*. The *Hotel* of *Obbam* or *Wastenaar* is a new Structure built by the present Count, who spared no Cost to bring Architects and other Artists from *Italy* and *France*, in order to make it as compleat as possible. It is indeed built in the most elegant Taste, is the best situated of any House in the *Hague*, and may be called in some Sense the *Buckingham-house* of the *Hague*.

*Hague.* Had it been as large and magnificent as it is neat and beautiful, it would have been *trop superb*, as the *French* say, too bold a Structure for a Subject to erect in a Republick, where all Men are in a manner equal by the Constitution. But the Owner had not Room to enlarge his Habitation so as to give any Offence. Behind it out of Sight there is indeed a great Extent of Building, and a noble Garden. On the one Side of this House stands that in which the Earl of *Cadogan* resided when Ambassador here; and on the other is an old Building, which does not want for Magnificence. It was lately inhabited by the famous Countess of *Wartenberg*, of whom it may suffice to say, that she is dead; leaving the History of her Life and Gallantries to some *French* Pen. Between this House and the *Cloister-kerk* there is an Outlet to the Canal, and the *Scheveling's* Port.

The *Cloister Church* has nothing in it remarkable. It is called so from having formerly been a *Jacobine* Cloister or Convent; and was founded by a Daughter of *Cleves*, the Wife of one of the *Florents*, Counts of *Holland*. At some Distance from it is a fine new House, built by a private Person, with a noble Garden behind it, that reaches quite down to the Canal.

On the other Side the Mall is the Hotel of *Portland*. It is a very extensive handsome Structure, and was built, I believe, by the late Earl, who was a magnificent Man, and favourite Minister



fter to *William* III. both before and after he was King of *Great Britain*. His Name was *Bentinck*, an illustrious Name in these Provinces. It is at present occupied by the Hon. Mr. *Bentinck*, who is one of the States. He has lately married a Daughter of the Lord *Cadogan*, Sister to the Duchess of *Richmond*, and is in the Guards, having made Choice of the military Life. The present Duke of *Portland* had his Education at *Leyden*, where he devoted five or six Hours every Day to his Studies. He left a very high Opinion of him in a City where Merit is far more consider'd than Birth.

From the *Voorhout* to the Wood, we pass thro' the NEW VOORHOUT. It is railed about like the other, and adorned with high Trees, and several very beautiful new Houses, amongst which, that of Mr. *Swartz* the Jew is the finest. It has two advanced Wings, which form a Court in the Front, and is the handsomest Structure in the *Hague*; but the Owner deserves it, and all other good Things; who, all beautiful as it is, is an Ornament to his House, and not his House to him.

The *Jewish* Synagogue stands here, which has not been long built, and does not front the Street. It is very neat and fine within, and is well worth being seen by the curious Traveller; which Pleasure he may have every *Saturday*, the Sabbath of the *Jews*. One may understand the Worship of the *Old Testament*, and the *Jewish* Rites

Rites and Antiquities better by seeing a Synagogue, and being present in Time of Worship, than by the tedious dry Study of all the Books in the World: The Method of acquiring Knowledge by the Eye is easy and pleasant. The *Jews* in their Synagogues are civil enough to Strangers, if they behave with any Degree of Decency: They present them with an *Hebrew* Bible to read in, and accommodate them in other Respects.

The little *Voorhout* opens to the NEW PRINCESS GRAFT, one of the noblest Parts of the *Hague*. It is a Row of beautiful new Buildings, which front the Wood, from which they are separated only by a neat broad Pavement and the Canal. It is inhabited by Persons of Distinction, and is the most delightful cool Part of the *Hague* in Summer, but the most chill and disagreeable in Winter. It faces the North, so that the Sun does not shine into the principal Apartments during six Months of the Year; and the Absence of its Rays for so long an Interval is a great Inconvenience in a Country so subject to cold and damp Air. All the Fires that can be made, are not near so effectual for keeping an House sweet and dry, as the Beams of the Sun; and it is observed, that those, who live here, are obliged to clean and scour their Utensils and Furniture more frequently than any where else; besides which, the Wood generates Flies and other Insects, which very much annoy the Inhabitants.

Behind

Behind this Street lies the Magazine or military Storehouse, called in *Dutch* T'GERSCHUT HUYS. It is a lofty Building, principally designed for founding Cannon. It was built in one Year, during the War with *England* in the Time of *Charles II.* It has a *Latin* Inscription, which is in Substance, *That for the sake of obtaining and preserving Peace, their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands had caused this Magazine to be erected.* It has a large Ground behind it; but little use is made either of the Ground or the Building, and neither are open to Strangers; from whence we may conclude, that there is little to be seen in them. The General Magazine at *Delft* suffices for the whole Province. There are indeed Magazines in *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, and most other Cities; but they seem to have been erected and kept up, not so much thro' real Occasion for them, as to sustain the Dignity and Sovereignty of the Cities in which they stand.

Near this Magazine is a new Row of Buildings with a Canal before them. They are uniform, but not very lofty. The other Side of the Canal is inhabited by Coachmakers and Blacksmiths. At the upper End of this Street are two Passages; the one leads out of the *Hague* over a Draw-bridge, and the other into the *Voorhout*.

In the *Casuari Straet*, near the *Princess Graft*, stands the OPERA HOUSE; but it is more frequently used for *French Comedies*. It is neither so large nor so fine as might be expected

at



at such a Place as the *Hague*. It is far inferior to the Theatre at *Brussels*, or even that at *Lisle*, the Capital of *French Flanders*. The latter is fixed, well frequented, and supported with Dignity; whilst that at *Brussels* scarce subsists, and the Companies, that come from *France* and other Parts to the *Hague*, are obliged to decamp, for Want of Encouragement. The Theatre is chiefly supported by the foreign Ministers; some few of whom contribute 100 l. and others 50 l. a Year for that Purpose: But more, who have no Relish for this noble and polite Amusement, do not concern themselves with it. There are no Seats in the Pit here; so that the Audience in that Part of the House are obliged to stand during the whole Representation, which is very tiresome. The Pit is not quite 1 s. 6 d. *English*, and the Boxes in Proportion. In the Outer Court there is another Theatre, where *Dutch* Comedies are sometimes play'd, but with still less Encouragement than the other.

Near the Theatre is the *East India* Company's House. It is not very lofty, nor are there any Sales here: The Directors only meet at a general Board on the Affairs of the Company.

Coming out of the Court, one enters *the Plain*, called in *Dutch* *Het Pleyn*. It is a beautiful Grove laid out in several cross Walks, and surrounded with stately Houses. Here the Foot-guards draw up every Afternoon. In this Place is the Coffee-house of the famous *Roselli*, who was by  
Birth

Birth an *Italian*. He was a Man of Humour, and had been engaged in a Variety of Adventures, which supplied him (perhaps) with Part of the Matter for the printed History, or rather Romance, of his Life. Some say he wrote it himself. Tho' it is perfectly trifling, it might be intended artfully enough to excite Curiosity, and attract Custom to his House. On the Door, to catch the Eye of Passengers, are these two Words in large Characters:

*SITIEN TIBUS ADSTO.*

This Coffee-house is the Resort of the Beau-monde, and the Billiard-table is frequented Night and Day. The News Papers, and other Sheets that come out, are stich'd up in Books, and kept as clean as they were at first.

The Deputies of the City of *Amsterdam* have their House here, which has been rebuilt with Magnificence; and is now a Lodging worthy the Representatives of so great a City. The Corner-house, Part of which fronts the *Plain*, and the other Part the Court, is perhaps the grandest in the *Hague*. It was lately burnt, and soon after rebuilt. It is usually inhabited by Ambassadors, but at present by the Prince of *Orange*, when he comes to the *Hague*.

Near the *Plain* in the *Lange Poote*, there is another fine Hotel, usually let to publick Ministers.

sters. Count *Ublefeld* the Imperial Envoy lives in it now, as the Earl of *Chesterfield* did before him.

The *Noord Eynde* is a long straight Street, that reaches from the *Scheveling's* Gate almost to the great Market. The Houses in it are good, and about the Middle is the O U D E H O F F, or *Old Court*. It formerly belong'd to King *William*, and now to the King of *Prussia*, as one of that Prince's Heirs. It is the most magnificent Structure in the *Hague*. The King however, when Prince of *Orange*, did not live in it, but in the Apartments of the Statholder in the Court. It is a large modern Building, with two advanced Wings supported by high Arches, from the Angles of which runs a noble Ballustrade: In the midst of it is the principal Gate, and at each End are two lesser ones. This Ballustrade, which is of Iron gilt, separates the Court from the Street. Over the Gate still remain the Arms of *Great Britain* and *Nassau Orange* within the Garter. As the *Prussian* Family made themselves Heirs to King *William*, as Prince of *Orange*, they have a Right to the Arms of that Prince, but what Right they have to those of *Great Britain* I do not know.

The Apartments of this Palace are not half finished, nor to this Day very magnificently furnished. Houses are quite finished within Doors only in the *British* Dominions. In the *Low Countries*, and every other Nation of *Europe*, they know not what it is either to wainscot or ciel their Rooms.

And



And as those Rooms are exceeding large, and high roof'd, they have a very bad Effect on the Eye of a *British* Subject. The Walls are hung with some coarse Cloth, gilt Leather, and sometimes with Arras; and those Hangings remain from Generation to Generation, till it is scarce to be known whether they are Cloth, Leather, or Tapestry. The Roofs are nothing but the Deals of the next Floor lying across large Rafters or Joists, which are sometimes pitch'd or oil'd to make them durable, and give them a better Hue. The Apartments are however generally adorned with a greater Variety of good Paintings than are commonly seen amongst us. In this Palace are many Pieces done by good Hands, but I saw none drawn by the great Masters. There was formerly a Library here open to the Publick, as well as the magnificent Garden, that lies behind the House, and extends quite down to the Canal that surrounds the *Hague*. His *Prussian* Majesty's Minister resides at present in this House: but it seems rather too large for him.

In the *Noord Eynde* Street is also the *English* and *High Dutch* Church. The *German* and *English* Ministers preach in it by Turns: the former begins between seven and eight in the Morning, and the latter at Eleven. The Congregations of either Nation, and especially of the *English*, are but small. The Church is *Presbyterian*, the established Church of the *United Provinces*. The Minister

Minister is paid by the States a Salary of about 1800 Florins, near 180 l. of our Money. There are several other *English* and *Scotch* Calvinist Churches in the Provinces. They are all well supported, the Poor well provided for, and their Ministers paid by the States: There is one at *Amsterdam*, two at *Rotterdam*, where there are three or four thousand of the *British* Nation; one at *Dort*, one at *Gonda*, one at *Middleburg*, and one at *Terveer*. There are two Congregations of the Church of *England*; one at *Amsterdam*, which is small, and the other at *Rotterdam*, more numerous: the Government does not concern itself with these. The Ministers have a Salary of 100 l. a Year from the King, and probably a Contribution from the People.

From this Street are two Turnings into the *Voorhout* and the *Plaats*. It terminates in the great Market, where Flesh is sold in the Shambles, but they are not much frequented. The *Dutch* take more Pleasure in another hard by, called the Fish-market. Great Variety of Fish from the Sea and Canals is seen here. They are all brought to Market alive, and kept in Troughs full of Water. The *Dutch*, who are Epicures in Fish, are so nice, that they buy none but what are alive; so that if there be any dead, they are either thrown away, or sold to the Poor for a Trifle. The *Dutch* boast as much of their Fish-markets, as the *English* of their *Leaden-hall*. They think them the greatest Curiosities in their

D Country;

Country; and I have often heard them ask Strangers \* emphatically, whether they had not seen the Fish-market.

Near the great Market stands the *Stadhuys* or Town-house. It was formerly but an ordinary Building, but is now rebuilt in a modern Taste. It fronts the great Church. The Space between them is used for publick Executions. A Scaffold is erected on such Occasions before the Windows of the Town-house, where the Magistrate sits, and sees the Sentence executed. This Building, which is but just finished, is plain and handsom; but it differs in nothing from a private House; which seems to be an Error in the Architect. All publick Edifices, and especially a Town-house, ought to be distinguished in some manner, and that sufficiently strong, from the Houses of Particulars, in order to attract the Regard of the Publick. And this may be done without overcharging the Walls with Sculptures, Frescos, Anagrams, and other Impertinences. At Top indeed there is one Image; but it escapes the Eye of the Passenger, who can take this Building only for the House of a rich Citizen. The old Front is still standing, but it deserves the Fate of the rest of the Structure. There is how-

\* It is said, tho' perhaps by Way of Joke, that the vulgar *Dutch* address their Sweethearts in these Words: *Myn sooute Cabalarw*, that is, *My dear Codfish*, when they would express exceeding Fondness and Passion.



ever this good Motto upon it in large gilt Capitals:

*Ne Jupiter quidem omnibus placet:*

Alluding to the Difficulty of pleasing universally in the Office of a Magistrate; and he may use it to support himself on Occasion, when he reflects, that the Divinity himself does not please all Men in his Government of the World. The Bench on which the Judges sit, is finely gilt and carv'd; and over it there is a mythological Painting on the Administration of Justice, exquisitely well done.

*De groote Kerk*, or the great Church, is large, and has a pretty high Steeple. The Shell of it in other Respects is not considerable. The greatest Glory of this Church, as of all other Structures consecrated to Religion, is to be found within it; that is, its being well filled with Worshipers, both on Sundays and Week-days. It is the Devotion of the People that principally adorns the Temples of this Country, which in other Respects are plain, simple, and without Ornament. This puts me in mind of an Inscription in a Church at *Bristol*, of which I took a Copy in the Year 1734, and think it the finest I ever met with, both for Purity of Language, and sublime Simplicity of Sentiment. If the Reader be of the same Opinion, I shall want no Excuse but itself for inserting it here.

*Hæc compta Dei domus  
modo collapsura,  
Jam quatuor novis columnis  
suffulta & decorata,  
Stabilimen & ornamentum  
recipit A. D. 1731.  
Firmius stabiliatur precibus,  
sacramentis, evangelis,  
et puritate morum;  
Clariùs ornetur quotidiano  
cætu Christianorum.*

That is,

*This neat House of God,  
which was upon the point of falling,  
was repaired and beautified  
by the Addition of four new Pillars  
in the Year of our Lord 1731.  
May it receive a firmer Support  
from Prayer, true Religion,  
and Purity of Manners;  
and be still more gloriously adorn'd  
by frequent Assemblies of good  
Christians.*

There is a magnificent Organ here, of which the Musick is preferable to that of the great Church at *Rotterdam*. The *Dutch* delight much in singing, which is indisputably a very sublime Part of Worship. For this Reason, all the Parishes

rishes that can afford it, have a Set of Organs in their Church. The Choir, which is separated from the Body of the Church by a brass Ballustrade, is darken'd by the great Number of Escutcheons affixed to it. Many Persons of Quality are interr'd here, and amongst the rest the Baron *D'Opdam*, one of the most famous Admirals *Holland* ever produced. His *Mausoleum*, which is very magnificent, was erected at the Charge of the Republick. The present Baron *D'Opdam* is his Grandson. His Epitaph, which is long and very pompous, gives an Account of his great Actions, and particularly of that wherein he was killed, when his Ship was blown up by the *English* in 1666. That Sea-fight is one of the most memorable in the *English* and *Dutch* Histories. The Duke of *York* and his prevailing Faction rejecting all the advantageous Proposals of Peace made by the *Dutch*, they were reduced to fit out a Fleet under Admiral *Opdam*, to whom they gave positive, but imprudent Orders, to fight the *English*, let the Wind be which Way it would. Contrary to the Opinion of his Officers, he thought himself obliged to obey, and the Event proved fatal to the *Dutch*. They were entirely defeated by the *English* Fleet under the Command of the Duke of *York*, Prince *Rupert*, and the Earl of *Sandwich*, with the Loss of only Four Men of War, and 1500 Men on our Side; among whom were Rear-admiral *Sampson*, the Earls of *Marlborough* and *Falmouth*, Lord *Portland*,



and fifteen other Persons of Note. *Baron Opdam* in the Beginning of the Battle, attacked the Duke of *York*, sunk three Yachts that attended him, and almost disabled his Ship; but Vice-admiral *Lawson* and Captain *Smith* coming up seasonably to his Relief, and *Opdam* being engag'd with several other Ships that had the Wind of him, he was blown up, either by an accidental Shot that enter'd his Powder-room, or, as the *Dutch* say, by the Treachery of an *English* Gunner, who served on board of him, or, as his Epitaph tells us, by his own Orders. He was interr'd with great publick Solemnity in this Church. He was one of the ancient Nobility of *Holland*, and had distinguished himself in 1656, when the States, on account of Trade, interfer'd in the Quarrel between the Crowns of *Sweden* and *Poland*, that concluded a Peace by the Treaty of *Elbing*, into which they were both aw'd by the Fleet under Admiral *Opdam*. Two Years after, from the same Motive, the Republick interpos'd in the War between the *Danes* and *Swedes*, and extricated the King of *Denmark* out of the great Extremities to which he was reduced in his Capital. *Opdam* defeated the *Swedish* Fleet, relieved *Copenhagen*, and enter'd it in a triumphant Manner.

Near the great Church is an *Anatomical Chamber* belonging to the *Barber-surgeons* of the *Hague*. They are upon the same Footing as those in *France*, form a Company, and have a Professor of

of Anatomy, who dissects publicly, and reads Lectures to them.

Storks may be seen stalking about the Walls of this Church, where they have proper Accommodations made for them. The *Dutch* are very fond of these Birds, and these are so tame, as to suffer themselves to be strok'd, and to eat out of People's Hands. Their usual Food is the Offal of the Fish-market. They build and hatch on the Chimneys in the Towns as well as Villages, and frequently on the Steeples of the Churches. In the Villages they live on Frogs, and the Fish they can catch in the Canals and Ditches. *Corringius*, and I think all other Writers after him, says, that they take their Flight with their Young about the Beginning of *August* to *Africa*, from whence they return every Year about the End of *February*. But that is a vulgar Error; at least it is not true of them all; for I have seen of these Birds, and particularly at the *Hague*, in the Months of *November* and *December*. Perhaps these find themselves so well here, as to forget their *African* Expedition. Wild-geese and Wild-ducks, of which there are great Flocks here in the Season, are certainly Birds of Passage; tho' some of these, no doubt, become so naturalized to the watry Isles of *Zealand*, as not to leave them. My Reason for believing this is, we find those Fowl on the Table in that Province every Month of the Year.

Beyond the great Church we enter the *Hooge west Eynde*, which is a long Street leading to the *Loof-duyn-se Bridge*. In this Street stands the *Hof van Spanje*. It is a large Building, with a Cupola at Top, and a Court fronting the Street. The Arms of *Spain* are affixed to the Wall, as the foreign Ministers do at *Rome*; but, I think, no where else. It belongs to *Spain*, whose Ambassadors always reside in it; which is the only Crown that has an Hotel at the *Hague* for its Ministers.

The Chapel belonging to it is neat, and well furnish'd with rich Plate for celebrating the Mass, and other Uses. It is the most frequented of any private Chapel in the *Hague*, the Service being no where kept up with greater Regularity. The *Jesuits* officiate here, as in all the other Chapels of the Ambassadors from *Roman Catholick* Powers. That Society find an *Asylum* only in their Hotels here: for they are under an Interdiction of the State, by which they are prohibited to exercise their Functions as Priests in any Chapel within the Dominions of their High Mightinesses, upon the severest Penalties. This is not done by Way of Punishment for any former Misdemeanour (for they, as well as the *Roman Catholicks* in general, have always lived as unexceptionably as the *Protestant* Subjects themselves) but by Way of Precaution, and to secure the Tranquillity of the State at all Events: so bad an Opinion do

*Protestant*



*Protestant* Powers entertain of the Disciples of *Loyola*.

Near this Hotel there is an House, where † young Ladies, whose Fortunes are not equal to their Birth, are educated and maintained. This excellent Foundation was Queen *Mary's*, when Princess. Her Royal Highness resided near 12 Years at the *Hague* with great Satisfaction and Delight, and could not dispense with leaving behind her some Monument of her Regard for so agreeable an Abode, when she removed into *Great Britain*. Her Piety and good Sense dictated to her this Foundation, of which Mr. *Bentinck* has the Direction. The Lands for its Maintenance are in *England*. I think the \* Provision is for Life; or, if the Ladies chuse to marry, a Sum of Money is given them. It is strange that *Bishop Burnet* should not mention this Foundation in his Account of the Life of that incomparable Queen. He must have overlook'd it; for he was so curious and inquisitive, that he let nothing

† At *Scheedam* there is a Society of *French* Protestant Ladies, that live all in one House, and have several Things in common. Their Manner of Life has much the Air of a Cloister Retirement, and would resemble it more, if Forms of Devotion were not rejected as superstitious by the Principles of their Religion.

\* There are nine such Foundations in the Electorate of *Hanover*, for the Maintenance of which there are as many Lands, or considerable Bailiwicks appropriated. One of the principal Ministers of State has always the Care and Government of them, with a large Appointment. Some of the Ladies have 60 l. and others 100 l. a Year. On this they live handsomely, without feeling the Misfortunes of their Families, thro' the Munificence of the Sovereign.

escape

escape him wherever he went; and *Holland* and the *Hague* were particularly known to him.

At the *Loof-duyn-se Bridge* are several Wind-mills, remarkable for their Height and Structure; and near them is a long Bleachery for Linen. The curious sometimes visit this Place, to observe the Method of the *Dutch* in whitening their Linen. Several Things concur to that Effect. The Water of their Canals, and especially of their Ditches, is of a due Thickness, and perhaps their Air is so too. Both those Elements may be too rare and fine for that purpose. The *Dutch* beat the Cloth exceedingly, and make use of much Lime, and sometimes Chalk; which, at the same time that they give an extraordinary Whiteness to the Linen, must make it both thin and rotten in many Places; so that if the *Dutch* Linen exceeds that of the *Scotch* and *Irish* in Colour, the latter must excel theirs in Thickness and Wear.

In this Part of the *Hague* is the *Prince Graft*, one of the most beautiful and magnificent Streets in *Europe*. It is near half a Mile in Length, proportionably broad, and as straight as a Line. A fine Canal, adorned on both Sides with shady Trees, runs thro' the midst of it. The Bridges over it are of hewn Stone, with iron Rails upon the Sides of them. There is little Noise and Hurry here, so that the Inhabitants seem to enjoy the Tranquillity of the Country. The Buildings, especially those lately erected on one Side

of

of the Street, resemble Palaces more than private Houses, and are inhabited by Persons of the first Rank. There cannot be a finer Prospect than this Canal from either of the Ends of it. Perhaps this is the only Part of the *Hague*, beautiful as it is, that is capable of any very great Improvement, or rather Perfection, by a few good Statues judiciously disposed in it.

Near the farther End of this Street stands the HOFJE VAN NICOOP. It is the most beautiful Hospital I ever saw, and would almost make the Spectator envy the Happiness of the People who live in it. It was built in 1661. by one *Neuport*, a *Roman Catholick* Woolien-draper, for sixty poor Widows of his own Religion; but the States obliged him to allow the *Protestants* an equal Share in his Charity. The Contrivance of the Building is admirable, without being either too lofty, or too mean for the Use it was intended. It may truly be called an Original, and serve as a Model for all other Foundations of the same kind. The Structure is longer than it is broad, but uniform in every Thing else. It takes in a large Spot of Ground, in which every Inhabitant has a Garden. The outer Gate is handfom, and adorned with a bold Groupe of Figures, alluding to the charitable Uses of the House. After you pass the Gate, you come into an handfom Portico, from whence runs a Vista thro' the Middle of the Gardens, which terminates at a Building with a fine Turret upon it and a Clock.

This



This is the publick great Hall, which the Founder seems also to have intended for the Place of Devotion of his large Family. Every Inhabitant has her Room in the Row of Buildings on each Side of the Court and Gardens. Besides the principal Walk, there is another that *crosses* it, and forms a Figure; which did the States observe, they possibly would alter that also. On the postern Gate are these two Lines altered from *Horace*:

*Vivitur parvo bene, ubi gratuitum*

*Splendet in mensa tenue salinum.*

In this Street stands the Spin-house, or House of Correction, for such young Women as have made a false Step. It is so called, because such of them as are confined for a certain Number of Months or Years, are obliged to spin, sew, or do any other Work for their Livelihood. Any Body is admitted to see them, paying Two-pence to the Porter; so that they are made a publick Shew, like so many wild Beasts. This does but harden the more impudent, and puts the modest, who lament their unhappy Condition with Sighs and Tears, to exquisite Pain and Anguish; so that no Government can be guilty of a more cruel and absurd Conduct than this. The Citizens sometimes send their Daughters hither for Chastisement, for whom there are particular Chambers allotted. In the publick Room of these

these Houses of Correction are to be seen many moving Objects; Victims to the severe and unrelenting Humour of gloomy and unnatural Parents. All the Intercession of Relations, Friends, and even Superiors, cannot avail to moderate the inhuman Sentence, that fixes their unhappy Fate for Life; against which, methinks, it would become the Wisdom of the Magistracy to find some Mitigation. For tho' the Power of Parents ought to be very extensive in such Cases; yet it does not seem compatible with the Interest of a State, and consequently with wise Government, to suffer excessive, and even unnatural private Rigour to deprive it entirely of its Subjects, in the Punishment of youthful Folly, and human Frailty: Neither indeed does such savage Severity consist with the Mercy and Charity of the Christian Disposition. *St. John viii. 3, — 11.*

*Est modus in rebus, sunt certi denique fines,  
Quos ultra, citraque nequit consistere rectum.*

Horat.

*Summum jus, summa injuria.*

Hither also are brought such disorderly Persons, as the Law has made no Provision against, and leaves to the Discretion of the Magistrates; bad Wives or Husbands, rebellious and disobedient Children, Spendthrifts, &c. The Apartments for these adjoin to the Spin-house, or rather are a Part of the same Building. But they are kept lock'd; for the Prisoners in them being Persons  
of

of the better Sort, and of good Families, are not exposed to any Body; neither is it known to any, except their Relations and the Magistrate, when and how they are confined and discharged. They are maintained here, as long as it is thought necessary, at the Expence of their Friends. Lunaticks are also confined here, but they are better used than the criminal People. They are kept from the Sight of the World; nor is human Misery made a publick Spectacle for the sake of a small Increase of the Revenue of the House, much less of the Porter, as at *Bethlehem Hospital* in *London*.

Not far from the *Prince Graft* is the *Lutheran Church*, which is not very large.

The *Wage-straet* is one of the longest and most airy of the *Hague*, but not considerable in other Respects. It is tolerably well built, extends from the *Wage-bridge* almost to the great Market, and is cross'd by the *Flaming* and *Spuy* Streets, both which are spacious, and well inhabited.

The *S P U Y* is a very spacious and lightfom Part of the *Hague*. It is half a Mile in Length from the *Hof-street* and Court-gate to the Leprous, and Watch-houses, which are the last of the *Hague* on the great Canal that leads to *Delft* and *Leyden*. That Canal extends to the upper End of this long Street, where its Waters disappear, and run under Ground thro' Arches for some Way; after which they appear again, and empty themselves into the several Canals of the City.



City. Those Waters are renewed twice in four and twenty Hours, for they ebb and flow with the Sea. The same happens in respect to all the Rivers and Canals in the *United Netherlands*, which ebb and flow with a more or less rapid Current, according to their Nearness to, or Distance from the Ocean.

The *Spuy* is in a manner the Harbour of the *Hague*, the Passage-boats lying there; but the Market Vessels load and unload on the *Beer-key*, a large Canal just by the *Spuy*. There are three handsom stone Bridges with iron Rails over the latter, besides two large Draw-bridges. This Street is well built, and inhabited chiefly by Shopkeepers and Innholders. The most remarkable public Buildings here are the new Church and the Poor's House.

The *newwe Kerk*, or new Church, stands in the midst of a Church-yard, very gloomy in Effect of the many Trees in it. This is an uncommon Sight in the Province of *Holland*, where they have no Room in their Cities for Church-yards. The Dead are commonly buried in the Churches, which costs a round Sum of Money. This Church is remarkable for its Structure, which is round, or rather octogonal, without any Pillars in it; so that the Minister is seen from every Part of it. It is however large and high-roofed, and has been much admired for its Architecture. In that Point notwithstanding, the round Church in *Middleburg* exceeds it, which  
is

is a fine Building, with the additional Ornament of a beautiful Cupola. We may here take Occasion to compare the Form of the Heathen and Christian Temples with each other. The former, being either round or oblong, were no doubt better contrived for hearing, and filled the Eye much better, as it took in the whole Beauty and Magnificence of the Temple at one View. But the Cross Figure is capable of a greater Variety of Ornaments, and is better adapted to entertaining the Spectator. The first, or round Temples, were intended to represent the Heavens, the Temple of the Almighty, which the Pagan World believed to be round. The latter are built in the Form of a *Cross*, the Sign of the Passion of the DIVINE PERSON adored in them. The Christians of the first Centuries might have put an End to the Differences that arose about building their Churches from East to West, or from West to East, had they thought of the *rotund* Figure.

The ARM-HUYS, or Poor's House, stands pleasantly on the Canal. It is a large handsom Building, and has a Turret with a Clock. It maintains about six hundred Boys and Girls, the Children of decay'd Citizens. They are kept wonderfully neat, and extraordinary Care is taken of them in other Respects. There are four or five Hospitals more in the *Hague* of different kinds, which are not maintained but at a great annual Expence of the Inhabitants; few of these Houses

Houses either here, or in the other Cities of the Provinces, being so amply endow'd, as to require no Supplies from the fix'd or voluntary Contributions of the People. It is computed, that in the *Hague* upwards of 100,000 Florins, or 10,000 l. Sterling, are annually collected for the Use of the Poor, either in the Churches, or from Door to Door, and that over and above the fix'd Rates, Legacies, and Supplies out of the publick Treasury. From the last the Poor of each Parish have 2 or 300 l. Sterling a Year; and in case of a dear Year, or the Increase of the Poor, the Consistory or Vestry have only to apply to the Magistrate for an extraordinary Supply of 2 or 300 l. more, which is chearfully, and immediately paid them.

The LEPER'S HOUSE is the last of the *Hague*. It stands on the Cañal at some Distance from the other Houses, and is surrounded with a Wall. It has a Garden, and a small Spire at Top of it, and is now inhabited by a private Family.

There were formerly Houses of this kind in all the Cities of the *Netherlands*, and in those of most other Countries. In the middle or more temperate Regions of *Europe*, *Ireland*, *England*, the *Low Countries*, *Germany*, and *Poland*, there was no considerable Town without them. No longer than a Century or two ago, there was only too much occasion for them. Those Houses are all now either fallen to decay, or inhabited by Particu-



lars for the sake of Retirement and their wholesome Situation.

It seems no hard Matter to account for the Leprosy's being so rife formerly, and so little known at present. That lothsome Disease is occasioned by bad Air, but more especially by unwholesome Diet. The Causes of bad Air are now in a great Measure removed amongst us, by cutting down our large Forests, draining our Marshes, and cultivating our Lands; and it cannot be denied, but we eat more wholesome Food, and live better than our Forefathers. Besides which, Physicians, for the common good of Mankind, have within these 50 or 60 Years past, published a multiplicity of little, intelligible Tracts, in the vulgar Tongue, on Diet and the Nature of Food, &c. which hardly a Farmer is without: So that the meanest Person of common Sense, without understanding the Terms of Art, is now capable of distinguishing good and bad, wholesome and unwholesome Nourishment. No longer ago than *Cromwell's* Time, the Leprosy was very common in *Ireland*. It was occasioned by the People's living much upon unwholesome Salmon, that is, when those Fish are out of Season. The poor People had them for catching, every River and Brook abounding with them. The *English* having got possession of the Country, put an effectual stop to the Use of such unwholesome Food, by warning the People against it, and by making severe Laws to prevent the taking of Salmon at a certain

a certain Season of the Year, when eating it is pernicious to Health. They also introduced the planting of Coleworts and other Garden-stuff, and allowed each Family a Cow for Milk. The poor People in consequence were immediately cured; and the many Hospitals expressly built to receive the leprous, are now gone to Ruin.

It is not to be doubted, but the *Dutch*, considering the indifferent Air they breathe, the wet Soil they live on, and the great Quantities of Fish they devour in all Seasons, would contract terrible Disorders if they did not, perhaps by Habit rather than Design, make use of the most powerful Antidotes against them; I mean Greens, Roots, and Milk; as also a Glass of Brandy, good Beer, and Wine: which are the daily Nourishments of both the poor and rich in this Country.

I shall take occasion here to say something of the Diseases most common in *Holland*; as also of the Preservatives against, and Remedies for them: Things that it highly imports Strangers to be apprized of.

Every body has heard of *Dutch Agues*, and their Inveteracy; tho' I have not observ'd them to have been either much more rife or more malignant than in *England* for 12 or 15 Years past. The best Preservative against them in this damp Climate is a full, but not overcharged Stomach. Such as go abroad early in the Morning, usually fortify themselves against the thick Air, by

taking a Dram and a Crust of Bread, some Dishes of Coffee, Gingerbread, or the like. The ordinary Remedies are not different from those made use of in other Places, as Bitters, Camomile, and the Bark: But this last Drug is not given in so large Quantities as in *England*. Vomits, of which the *Dutch* are very apprehensive, are rarely administred either alone, or before the Bark be taken. As this is the Practice, it is no Wonder that the Patient should find so little benefit from that Medicine; and one cannot but be amazed, how the Physicians of this Country (where the Art of Medicine is so much cultivated) can commit such a Blunder in so obvious a Case. Tho' Constitutions, and consequently the Nature and Degrees of the same Distemper, vary prodigiously, and perhaps are not exactly the same in any two Persons in the World; yet I can affirm from my own Experience, and that of many others, that Vomits alone (and sometimes change of Air) have proved the most effectual Specificks against the Agues of this Country.

The *Dutch* think no People are so much troubled with the Scurvy as they: But they mistake. There are more blotched Faces in one Town in *England*, than in a whole *Dutch* Province; from whence it seems probable, that eating Fish, salt Bacon, and hung Beef, with moist Air, are not altogether so prejudicial to the Blood and Juices, as living upon Butchers  
Meat



Meat alone. We must however repeat here, that Roots, Greens, and new Milk, of which the Diet of the *Dutch* principally consists, are sovereign Antidotes against all Distempers incident to the Blood.

The third epidemical Distemper of the Climate is the Gout, occasioned chiefly by eating too much at Meals, and great Indolence after them. Hence the Gout, not only in *Cicero's*, but in all Times, has been reckoned the Companion of the rich, as the Ague of the poor. Abstinence and Milk-diet are usually thought the most effectual against this Distemper. But a \* young Physician of *Holland*, a Nephew of the late Dr. *Boerhaave*, imagines he has just discovered a Cure for this Disease, which I shall communicate to the Reader. It consists in causing a Dog to lie at the Feet of a Person troubled with the Gout; in consequence of which he soon finds himself eased of the Dis-

\* See *Perspiratio dicta Hippocrati per universum corpus anatomicè illustrata: Auctore Abrahamo Kaau, M. D. Leydæ, 1738.* The Doctor gives several Examples, which have some Analogy with the abovementioned Method of curing the Gout, as that of *David* in his old Age gathering new Strength by lying with a young Girl. This was possibly the Effect of a kind of Attraction: *Homo ex homine trahit*, says our Author. It is certain, the foul Distemper may be contracted by lying in the same Bed with one that has it: And the Small-pox is still more infectious. An Horse, or Ox give their Disease to all in the same Stable with them. These are Cases, which bear some Resemblance with our Doctor's gouty Person: But unfortunately we do not find, that a Man who has the Small-pox, or any other contagious Disease, gets rid of it by communicating it to another.

temper, whilst the Dog is seized with it, which he discovers by the agitation he is in, and his crying and howling. The Animal, like a Loadstone, attracts to himself the morbidick Matter of the Gout. There is indeed nothing impossible in this, or that may not be rationally accounted for; and it will be well for many, if Practice and Experience confirm it. It is perhaps as easy to conceive this Effect, as that of Pigeons applied alive in Fevers and Lunacy to the Head, Feet, and other Extremities of the Body; or that in the Itch and certain other Foulnesses in the Blood, in which Cases Steel Girdles round the Middle, or the Wrists, and Ancles, are infallible Remedies.

Some have thought that more People are afflicted with the Palsy, and other Diseases of the Nerves, in these Provinces, than in other Countries. And this probably is true; for the *Dutch* are continually drinking Tea, and set no Bounds to the Use of that Liquor. Very many drink it, and Coffee also, three times a Day; the latter being often used instead of a Supper: In a Word the People half subsist upon these Liquors; I mean the poorer sort. They have their Tea, such as it is, at the Rate of two Shillings a Pound, and Coffee at a Penny an Ounce.

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*The* H A G U E *and* M A D R I D  
*compared.*

**A**S the *Hague* and *Madrid* are often mentioned together, on account of their being the greatest Villages, or Places without Walls in *Europe*, let us here draw a Parallel between them in some Respects.

*Madrid*, no more than the *Hague*, never received the Title of City, as many ascribe to it thro' mistake, but is called *Villa*, a Village or Market-town.

It lies in the Heart of a Kingdom, which is a very proper Situation for a Capital. As the seven United Provinces together are of no great Extent, such as have occasion to go to the *Hague*, which lies on one Side of the Country, have not above two or three Days Journey thither. In respect to Situation *Utrecht* has the advantage of it, being in the Center of the Provinces.

*Madrid*, tho' situate Lat. 40, 25. in a sultry Climate, enjoys nevertheless good Air in the midst of a fertile Soil. We have only to observe on this Head, that the hot and dry Weather of *Madrid* suits best with the Constitutions of the Natives, as the cold and



moist of the *Hague* does with those of its Inhabitants.

The Antiquity of the *Spanish* Capital is uncertain, and therefore shall not detain us.

*Madrid* is of a round or oval Form, and in compass about eight Miles: The *Hague*, as before observed, is near six.

For spacious Streets, fine Openings, and Airiness, the *Dutch* far exceeds the *Spanish* Village; but in Uniformity of Buildings is inferior to it. That great Ornament of a City is well observed at *Madrid*.

Accordingly the *Plaza Major* has a Row of an hundred and thirty six stately Houses, all uniform, with continued Lines of Balconies joining to each other, and all exactly alike; no body being allowed to depart, in the least, from the Form of Building prescribed, in respect to Windows, Balconies, or any Thing else contrary to Uniformity. The *Nieuwe Daggings*, which is not the most lofty Street in the *Hague*, is the only one built uniform, and that only on one Side. The *Princess's Graft* approaches Uniformity. It is surprizing that the *Dutch*, who are more attentive to the Beauty and Ornaments of their Towns, than any other People, should have so little regard to what constitutes so essential a part of both, and is, in respect to Places, what Symmetry is in Sculpture, and Harmony in Musick.

*Madrid* as far excels the *Hague* in Magnificence,

cence, as the *Hague* does *Madrid* in Beauty and Cleanliness.

The latter is magnificent in Palaces: The Reader will easily believe this, when he knows that *Philip II.* was very fond of adorning his Capital. The *Hague* has no such royal Builder to boast: That Prince's Father, *Charles V.* indeed planted a few Trees, and did some other small things to it.

The *Plaza Major*, or great Square, mentioned just before, has nothing that comes near it at the *Hague*. It is 436 Feet one way by 334, with Piazzas quite round it, after the manner of *Covent Garden*, to shelter People from the Sun and Rain. This is the Place where the Bull-feasts, and all other publick Shews are kept; and it contains 50,000 Spectators commodiously.

The *Hoff* or *Court* at the *Hague*, tho' gross and Gothick, is more lightsom than the King's Palace at *Madrid*; which in other Respects is very stately, and consists of three Courts.

The Palaces of the Nobility and Grandees of *Spain*, whether ancient or modern, are very lofty, and all built with Stone.

*Aranjuez* is not so stately a Building as *Honslardyke*, but its Gardens, Waterworks, and native Beauties, being situated in an Island in the midst of the River, perhaps exceed those of the *Dutch* Palace. The *Spaniards* are never weary of expatiating in praise of this perfect Paradise,

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Paradise, as they call it, chiefly on account of what every Village and Cottage in *Holland* enjoys; that is, shady Walks and Water; Things however in so sultry a Climate as *Spain*, of great Beauty and Convenience to the Natives. In this Place there is so much Water, that the Trees and Plants are never scorched with the heat of the Sun, and are always green.

The *Hague* has no Place that answers the *Prado* at the end of *Madrid*. It is a delightful Plain shaded with Poplar Trees, with many curious Fountains in it, and the Place of Recreation for all the Inhabitants, who go thither to take the Air, and divert themselves; the Nobility in their Coaches and on Horseback, and the common People on Foot, and using several Exercises.

At the end of the *Prado* is a new handsome Palace, that answers the *House in the Wood*, called *El buen Retiro*, the good Retreat, the Kings retiring thither out of the Town. It is adorned with the Paintings of the great Masters, as well as the House in the Wood.

As to Paintings, Statues, Bustos, and other valuable Curiosities, both ancient and modern, *Madrid* glories in the Spoils of *Italy*, near one half of that Country, for about two Centuries, having belonged to the Kings of *Spain*, whose Viceroys and Governors did not fail to collect all that was finest, and to send them  
to



to *Spain*, either as Presents to the King, the favourite Minister, or to adorn their own Palaces when recalled.

The *Dutch* are indebted to no Nation of the Earth for adorning their Houses as to Pictures.

At *Madrid* the Furniture is rich, at the *Hague* neat. The first, after the manner of the *Italian* Palaces, consists of Velvet embroidered with Gold, Lustres of Rock Crystal, with abundance of antique Bustos, Vases, and Statues of Marble and Brass; and they have such Quantities of Plate, the Product of their *Indian* Mines, as are incredible. The Chapels of their Grandees, and other principal Nobility, are so exquisitely embellish'd, and so richly furnish'd, that they surpass all Imagination. The Courts and Halls of their Palaces are always full of Domesticks: At the *Hague* little of all this is to be seen.

The Draw-bridges over the Canals of the latter are neat and beautiful, but much inferior in Magnificence to the Bridge called *Segovia*, over the little River at *Madrid*: To give an Idea of which it suffices to say, that it was built by *Philip II.* who laid out 200,000 Ducats upon it.

The *Hague* however abounds infinitely more in Water than *Madrid*; the *Vyver*, or a single Canal, having more Water at all Times than the *Manzanares*. That River is almost dry in Summer,

Summer, when the hot Season makes Water so refreshing, and the sight of it so delightful. This gave a *Biscayner*, who saw it in Summer, occasion to say, *That Madrid should either buy Water, or sell their Bridge.*

The excessive Heat of the Climate prevents the Inhabitants of *Madrid* from adorning their Houses with such lofty Windows, and fine Glazing, as is to be seen in *Holland*, instead of which they have generally only Lattices. The Houses of the Nobility have glass Sashes in Winter, which they are obliged to take down during the Summer Heats, and to supply either with Lattices or Canvas.

The Number of the Inhabitants of the Capital of *Spain* is not known; for they keep no Bills of Mortality, nor is there any other known Method amongst them, to enable one to form a probable Calculation. Discerning Travellers have however taken upon them to guess, and seem to agree, that their Number is about fourscore thousand Souls. According to this Estimate, *Madrid* has twice as many Inhabitants as the *Hague*. The former has twelve Squares, or publick Places; and almost every Street of the latter may be considered as a beautiful publick Place. The former contains four hundred Streets, but one Street of the latter is more spacious than three of them.

There

There are 57 Convents of Men and Women, and 22 Hospitals and charitable Foundations in *Madrid*. The general Hospital for all Nations and Distempers seldom entertains less than 500, and sometimes 1,000 Sick. Its constant Revenue is about 30,000 Ducats, or 15,000*l*. Sterling, besides a great Sum that arises from charitable Gifts and Contributions.

It is as dangerous at *Madrid* as at *Lisbon*, for a Stranger to be abroad in the Streets in the Night-time. On the contrary one may travel Day or Night in *Holland*, without fear of being robb'd, or otherwise molested. There is indeed in the Roads leading to the *Hague*, a Patroll of a Serjeant and four Troopers, tho' there is no manner of occasion for that Precaution.

The usual yearly Expence of Provisions in *Madrid* is 50,000 Sheep, 12,000 black Cattle, 6,000 Kids, 1,000 Calves, 13,000 Hogs, 90,000 Arrobas, each weighing 25 Pounds, of Oil, and 80,000 of Wine *per* Month, besides an infinite Quantity of wild and tame Fowl. The amount of the latter may be said to be known in some Measure, because they pay Duty at the Gates when brought in; but there is a great Consumption of all Kinds clandestinely introduced.

I dont know whether this Computation be exact; but there seems to be room to doubt it,



it, at least in respect to the first Articles. For the *Spaniards*, and all the Southern Nations eat little Butchers Meat: That they leave to the Northern People, and especially to the *English*. As to the Consumption of the *Hague*, there is no certain Means for knowing it. Tho' the *Dutch* love *Scapa Ules* at least as well as the *Spaniards*, it is not probable that they shed the Blood of half the innocent Creatures laid to the charge of the latter. It must however be observed, that one Mouthful of *Dutch* Mutton goes farther than three of *Spanish*, upon which there is not the least Fat; from whence we may judge of the *Spanish* Oxen and Cows, which require a ranker Pasture than Sheep. The Sun burns up all in *Spain*, and hardly leaves a few Herbs to support Life in the lean starved Goats on the Clifts of the Rocks, whither his Rays do not penetrate so violently.

As for the rest, were the Number of the Inhabitants of a Place to be judged from its Meat-eaters, *London* alone, perhaps, would be found to contain more People, than the Kingdoms of *France* and *Spain* together. In that Capital and its Suburbs, on a mean Calculation, there are near 100,000 black Cattle, and above 700,000 Sheep consumed yearly, of which, considering their Largeness, two would weigh at least three of the same Species in the other two Countries. According

ing to the Rule of Proportion, this must augment the number of black Cattle consumed in *London*, of the size of theirs, to about 130,000, and of Sheep to upwards of 900,000. To make a transient Observation: The *English* boast much of *Leaden-hall*, and their other Butcher-markets, to which no other Country has any thing comparable of that Kind; and therefore conclude, that all other Nations are half-starv'd: But they seem either not to consider, or not to know, that other People have delicate Provisions for the Table, Fish, Fowl, Fruits, Oil, &c. (not to mention Wine) in greater plenty and perfection than themselves; and that such kind of Food is better suited to their Constitutions, than the loads of Butchers Meat, with which they very frequently surfeit and ruin theirs.

A more exact Parallel might be drawn between the Province of *Holland* and the Country of *Attica* in ancient *Greece*. Both are Republicks, abounding with learned and ingenious Men, Merchants, and Navigators. The Fields of *Attica* were fitter for Pasture than Corn. The *Athenians* were fond of planting and adorning their Country with Trees. The Men of Wit and Letters assembled in shady Walks. In the Time of their great Law-giver *Solon*, the People consisted of four Classes; Merchants and Mechanicks, Farmers, Grasers, and Soldiers.

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Soldiers. Trade was in great honour amongst them. *Solon* made good Laws for Merchants, and traded himself, as *Plutarch* tells us. “ In his Time, says he, according to *Hesiod*, “ Trade was not thought dishonourable, nor “ did it in the least debase those who made it “ their Profession: But above all, Commerce “ was deemed a worthy Calling, that brought “ Home the good Things enjoyed by barbarous Nations, was the occasion of the Amity “ and Alliance with their Kings, and the “ Mother of Experience. Some Merchants “ have built great Cities, as the Founder of “ *Maffilia* (*Marseilles*.) *Thales* and *Hippocrates* “ traded; and *Plato* defrayed the Expence “ of his Travels by selling Oil in *Egypt*.” (*Plut. in vit. Solon*.)

The *Athenians* invited and encouraged Strangers to settle amongst them, by granting them the Privileges of their City.

*Epaminondas* called *Boeotia*, a Country adjoining to *Attica*, the Theatre of *Mars*. The same Name may be given to *Flanders*, which borders on *Holland*. *Xenophon* called *Ephesus* the Work-shop of War; an Epithet highly suiting *Amsterdam*, as the Manufacture of Arms, Ammunition, &c. with which it supplies the greatest part of *Europe* and *Asia*, makes a considerable part of the Trade of that great City.

There



There is a nearer Resemblance undoubtedly between the Commonwealth of *Holland* and the little States of *Greece*, than the latter have with any other modern Republicks, whether the *Swiss Cantons*, *Venice*, or *Genoa*; the two last resembling them scarce in any thing except the Name.

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F C H A P.

## CHAP. II.

*The SOVEREIGN COURTS  
held at the HAGUE.*

THE Polity or Civil Government of this great Republick has been occasionally touch'd upon by many Authors and Voyage-writers, but perhaps not with the Order and Perspicuity, that a Subject of such Weight and Importance requires. It must indeed be own'd, that there are in some Parts of its Constitution certain Intricacies and *Resorts*, that it is not easy to trace: To attempt that therefore, is not our present Design. It shall suffice now, to give the Reader as clear and exact an Idea as we can, of the external Face and Form of the Civil Government; and that is only to be done, by considering the Sovereign Courts which are held at the *Hague*.

The Government of the seven Provinces, which compose the Republick, is vested in the STATES GENERAL, and under them in the COUNCIL OF STATE.

The Assembly of the STATES GENERAL consists of the Deputies of each Province. The States of *Guelderland* have the first Voice, those of *Holland* the second, of *Zealand* the third,

third, of *Utrecht* the fourth, of *Friesland* the fifth, of *Overyffel* the sixth, and of *Groninghen* the seventh. They send as many Deputies as they please, but the Deputies of each Province have but one Voice; and each presides weekly in its turn, in order to maintain its respective Sovereignty and Equality. The Person best qualified, is chosen President *pro tempore* out of the Deputies of each Province. This Assembly declares War, makes Peace, gives Audience to foreign Ministers, and nominates Ambassadors to the several Courts of *Europe*. But none of these things are done, till the Deputies have first consulted the States of their respective Provinces, and received their Orders: For without their Consent all they transact is void; and the Members, who should presume to act any thing of Importance upon their own Authority, would most certainly lose their \* Heads. Thus this Assembly, which is called Sovereign, only represents the Sovereignty, and

\* Sir *W. Temple* observes, that this fundamental Article was never broke through, except in 1688. when he himself prevailed on the States General (for the preservation of *Flanders*, at that Time invaded, and much of it conquered by *France*) to conclude three Treaties in five Days, without having recourse to the Provinces, which must likewise have consulted their several Cities, &c. Sir *William* however owns, that the States General endanger'd their Heads by this Step, had the Provinces disapproved it; but being unanimous, and knowing their Country's Interest required it, they ventured it; for which they were applauded, and thank'd by every Province, having thereby changed the Face of the Affairs of *Christendom*, and for that Time broke the *French King's* Measures.



essentially differs from the Parliament of *Great Britain*, of which the Members are in a manner Principals, and may act independently of the Counties that deputed them; their only Punishment, when they do amiss, being the Disgrace they suffer on the part of their Constituents, on being laid aside at the next Election. It is this Form of Government that renders the Resolutions of the Republic so tedious and dilatory, as to tire the Patience of the Powers, who have Affairs to negotiate with the States, and whose happier Constitution, in this Point, admits of speedier Resolutions. This slow Method of proceeding, tho' attended with Disadvantages, has also its Advantages. It affords Leisure for mature Deliberation and Caution, and is sometimes an unexceptionable Pretext for protracting Time, and waiting Events. Every body knows, that Affairs are not determined in this Assembly by plurality of Voices, but by the unanimous Consent of all the Provinces; and each Province again must have the unanimous Consent of all their Towns, of whose Deputies the Provincial States are composed. Thus the Deputies of the States General are but a kind of Ambassadors from their respective Provinces, assembled to hold Conferences for the publick Good, but without any Powers to establish any thing, except such as are from time to time remitted to them by their Principals.

The COUNCIL OF STATE is composed

posed of eleven Members, or Deputies; one from *Guelderland*, three from *Holland*, two from *Zealand*, one from *Utrecht*, two from *Friesland*, one from *Overysfel*, and one from *Groningben*. The Nobility have also a Deputy in it. Some of those Deputies are for Life, and others for three or four Years, as their respective Provinces think fit. This Council puts the Resolutions of the States General in Execution, proposes to them the most expedient Means for raising Troops and Money, gives out Passports, disposes of the Revenues, superintends the Army, Works, and Fortresses, as also the Government and Affairs of all the conquer'd Places in *Flanders* and *Brabant*. Towards the End of every Year this Council forms an Estimate of the Expences they think necessary for the Year following, which they lay before the States General, and desire them to demand the Consent of the States Provincial, that the Money may be raised according to their respective *Quotas*; which \* *Quotas*, in the proportion of aliquot Parts of 100 *l*. Sterling, stand thus:

	<i>l</i> .		<i>l</i> .
<i>Guelderland</i>	7	<i>Friesland</i>	17
<i>Holland</i>	42	<i>Overysfel</i>	5
<i>Zealand</i>	13	<i>Groningben</i>	8
<i>Utrecht</i>	8		

\* According to an approved Writer, *Ailzma* in his *Lezwe*. He wrote about the Year 1668. since when there has been no Alteration made in the *Quotas* of the several Provinces.

To these two Sovereign Councils of the Republick may be added a third, that of the Admiralty, which is subdivided into five Colleges, or Courts. Three of these are in *Holland*; one at *Amsterdam*, one at *Rotterdam*, and the third at *Horn*; the fourth is at *Middleburg* in *Zealand*, and the fifth at *Harlingen* in *Friesland*. Each of these Courts consists of seven Deputies; four of that Province where the College resides, and three nominated by the other Provinces. *Great Britain* has but one Court of Admiralty; but the maritime Provinces of the Republick will have each their respective Court, as a mark of their Sovereignty, and in some sense of their Independency of each other.

The STATES-PROVINCIAL are composed of the Deputies of the Nobility, and of the Towns, which in some Measure answers our Houses of Lords and Commons.

The States of the Province of *Holland* have nineteen Votes, of which the Nobility, who send as many Deputies as they please, have the first, and the Cities the other eighteen. The smallest of those Cities, *Gorcum*, *Schiedam*, the *Brill*, and *Purmeren*, have an equal Voice in this City with *Amsterdam*, tho' the latter pays almost half the Expences of the whole Province; as the Province of *Overyssel* has an equal Voice in the States General with that of *Holland*, which pays above two fifths of the Charges of the United Provinces. Much in the



the same manner the City of *London*, which pays at least one third of the publick Expences, is allowed no more than four Voices in the Legislature. The Deputies of *Holland* are elected out of the Magistrates and Senate of each Town, in what number they please; but all have only one Voice. They are maintained at the Charge of their respective Towns; and one of the Burgo-masters, with the Pensionary of each City, are usually of the number. They meet in the Court at the *Hague* in *February*, *June*, *September*, and *November*. In the first Sessions they fill up vacant Offices on the Civil List, and dispose of the vacant Commissions in such Regiments as are upon the Establishment of the Province. They also renew the Farms of the Taxes, consult upon the common Affairs of the Province, and make up such Differences as may have arose between Towns. In *November* they assemble about the *Quota* settled by the States General for the Expences of the Republick for the ensuing Year.

This Province has also a Council of State (called in Dutch *De Gecomitteerde Raden*, the Committee of Council) which executes the Resolutions, &c. of the States of the Province. It consists of one Deputy from the Nobility, one from each of the eight principal Cities, and one from three of the smaller Towns, of which each chuses the Deputy in its turn.

When the States General come to a Resolution, they send some of their Body to their respective Provinces with it and their Reasons, and desire Orders concerning it, which are generally granted; but not till the Provincial Deputies have sent some of their number to their respective Towns, in order to their Consent.

Hence it is evident, that the real Sovereignty of the Commonwealth vests where one would least expect to find it; that is, neither in the States General, nor States Provincial, but in the Towns or People, *en dernier Resort*. Without the Consent of every one, even to the smallest of these Towns, nothing can take effect either in the States General, or Provincial. This is an enormous Defect in this \* Con-

\* Some have thought, that *William I.* Prince of *Orange*, who founded the Commonwealth, took in so many little Towns, in order to balance the greater, of whom he could not be sure. Others say with more reality, that he was forced to it, to induce them to concur more heartily in the War, as they were to have such a Share in the Government for the future. But let us hear the States themselves upon this Head. "For the end (say they) that every one might share in the Government, we have granted to many small Towns, which formerly were not called to the general Assemblies, the Privilege of sending Deputies, and taking part in the Administration of all Affairs, that they may in effect more willingly support the payment of the Taxes, which themselves shall think fit to impose." See the Proclamation of the States of Holland, and West Friesland concerning the ancient Right of the Commonwealth of Holland made at *Haerlem* October 16, 1587. It is worth observing particularly here, that the Cause of this solemn Proclamation, or, as it may more properly be called, Declaration, was some Persons crying up the ancient Counts of *Holland*, and *Statholders*, who they fancied had succeeded them.

stitution.

stitution. It were certainly sufficient, if two thirds concurr'd to a Resolution; in effect of which the Commonwealth could not but be more secure against Contingencies. For at present the Corruption of any one small Town may put the publick Affairs into great, and even fatal Disorder: And one would think That no difficult Matter for a foreign Minister to effect by secret Agents, and *Philip of Macedon's* Key to the Towns of *Greece*. Yet to the great praise of this People, we cannot but observe, that the strictest Enquirer would find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to produce a single Instance of such vile Corruption in any of these Towns.

Most of them are independent, and in a manner so many little Republicks. Their Government is Aristocratical: So that the so much boasted Liberty of the *Dutch* is not to be understood in the general and absolute Sense, but *cum grano salis*. The Burgo-masters and Senate compose the Sovereignty; and, on a Vacancy by Death, the Burgo-master would be highly offended, if any petulant Burgher presumed to murmur at his filling it up with one of his own Sons, or Relations. The Government of most of the Cities in consequence has continued in a few good Families from immemorial Time: And so great is the Awe of the Magistrate, and Person in Power in this *free* Republick, that the Citizens, either  
in



in their private or collective Capacities, do not care to attempt putting Things into any other Order than they found them.

Upon the whole, this State is not so properly a Commonwealth, as a Confederacy of seven sovereign Provinces for their mutual Defence; and each of those Provinces may be subdivided into so many little States or Cities, leagued together for their common Interest and Safety.

This Republick has a near Resemblance to the *Achaean* League, which consisted of several independent States and Cities allied together for their mutual Defence. Each of them had been govern'd by single Persons, who having abused their Power limited by Law, were degraded, and expell'd their Country. Those Cities then form'd themselves into so many Commonwealths, and enter'd into a League to strengthen themselves. This new State, which had at least the Face of Liberty, became the common Asylum of its Neighbours, and immediately grew populous, rich, and powerful. The greatest Kings courted her Amity, and honour'd her with solemn Embassies. She had a fix'd Place, where the Deputies of the Cities assembled to deliberate on the common Affairs of the League. They chose also a Chief, whom they called *Prætor*; who govern'd conformably to the Resolutions taken in the Assembly of the Allies, and was

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at the same Time their Captain General. The League had also a Minister of State. Their *Prætor* indeed was only annual; in which single Circumstance the Resemblance between the Confederate States of *Greece* and the United Provinces does not hold good.

The Minister of State of the ancient, answers to the Office of Great Pensionary of the modern, League. A certain great Writer calls him only the Servant of the Republick, because the Deputies of the Provinces take place of him: But perhaps he does not deserve that Appellation merely on that Account. As the Deputies of the Provinces represent the Sovereignty of the State, they have a right to take place of any of her particular Ministers; as Kings in right of Sovereignty take place of all others. No Office, in my Opinion, is more laborious than that of Great Pensionary of *Holland*; in which respect it far exceeds that of Minister of State in other Governments. He not only does the Duties of Minister, but is obliged to assist at all the Sovereign Councils of the Republick, to prepare Matters for them, and to have a great Share in their Consultations. And yet this State has never wanted great Men to fill so laborious and extensive an Office. They must be equally versed in the Laws and Politicks, and Persons of fine Address and Elocution. He is the Director and particular Minister of the College of the Nobles, and often

often their Interpreter: He is the Orator of the State, and in a Word the *primum mobile*, and Soul of the Republick. It is surprizing, that the *Dutch* have no History of their *Great Pensionaries*; tho' indeed it would be a difficult Task to compile one. In Commonwealths the Authors of the wisest Counsels and Enterprizes are concealed, and confounded with the many; and were they or their Friends to declare themselves, it would be deemed criminal Arrogance, and ambitious Ostentation, and render them the Objects of much Jealousy and Envy. *De Witt's* Imprudence, and Custom of boasting did not a little contribute to his Destruction. In Kingdoms the Authors of great publick Measures are not unknown. *Grotius's* \* Remark on this Head is worth reading.

The other laborious Office of the State is that of the *Greffier*, or Secretary to the States General: But it is the most beneficial in *Holland*.

We have hitherto barely mentioned the *Nobility*, who have a very considerable Share in the Government of the Republick. They form a distinct House or College in each Province. They send Deputies to all the Councils, both of the States General and Provincial.

\* *In regnis maximarum rerum administri non latent: in Batavis cuncta consilii nomine perscribuntur, auctorum nulla memoria; quos etsi noveris, laudandi locum ambitiose quæsisse videaris, nec plurium vites offensas, quibus aliena gloria pro reprobatione ignavia est.* Grot. Lib. VII. Hist. ad Ann. 1598.



In the Council of State their Deputy is President, and generally for Life: And in the States General they have the first Vote, which gives them great weight in the Affairs in deliberation. They have also Deputies in the Court of Admiralty and the other Councils, in which they have always the Precedency. They nominate a noble Counsellor in the two high Courts of Justice; and what is still more than all these honorary Offices, they have a Right to, and actually possess the best Charges, both Civil and Military.

Two or three Centuries ago the United Provinces had a numerous and powerful Nobility, whose Names make a great figure in the Annals of their Country. They were Sovereigns within themselves, could levy little Armies, &c. so that, next to the Prince of *Orange*, throwing off the *Spanish* Yoke, and asserting the Liberties of the People, may be justly ascribed to their Valour and great Riches, which they cheerfully expended in so glorious a Cause. Not a few of them fell in those Wars. Others on the change of Religion, retired out of the Country; and some thro' Misfortunes, from which no human Condition is exempt, fell into Obscurity, and were confounded with the People. In consequence the Number of the Nobility is not great at this Day, and even some of them not of *Dutch* Extraction. *Zeland*, in effect of its nearness to *Flanders*, was  
so

so much exposed in the Wars, that all the Nobility were cut off, except the Prince of *Orange*, who as Marquess of *Ter-veer* and *Flushing*, is now the only Nobleman of the Province. There are several Nobles in *Guelderland* and *Overyssel*, of which the Graff or Count *de Welderen* is one of the most considerable. The Provinces of *Friesland* and *Groninghen*, which lie remote from the Theatre of War, abound with a splendid Nobility: Nor is the Province of *Utrecht* without them. Prince *Maurice* of *Orange*, who died without marrying in 1625, had by Madam *De Mechlen, Lewis*, Lord of *Leck, Beverwert*, and *Odyk* who dying in 1665. left Children that have formed three Branches, *Nassau, La Leck, Odyk*, or *Zeist*, and *Ouverquerque*. They are settled in this Province on the Foot of Nobles, have great Estates, and very fine Seats. In the Province of *Holland* there are only seven Nobles, the *Wassenaars*, who are divided into several Branches, *Vander Duin, Boetselaar, Hompesch, Sommelsdyck, Scagen*, &c. The present Nobility are in general lofty, brave, humane, Lovers of their Country, and Men of Learning. They descend from a very ancient and splendid Lineage, many of which shed their Blood in the Cause of Liberty, and thereby transmitted it entire to their Posterity. Their Names and Actions fill the Annals of their Country.

The *Dutch* Nobility seem to observe a Medium between the Loftiness of those of the same

same Rank in some Countries, and the Meanness of others. The *Italian* Nobility do not scruple to trade: The *French* are nicer; yet they make no difficulty to marry a Tradesman's Daughter, if she be rich, and thereby capable of repairing a shatter'd Estate. The *British* Nobility do not differ from the *French* in this respect. The *Germans* abhor Trade; and perhaps in effect of the general barbarous Constitution of their Country, Tyrant and Slave, disdain to mingle their Blood with that of base Plebeians, tho' their Brethren of Nature.

*M. Vander Heim* is now Great Pensionary. He succeeded *M. De Slingeland* in 1737. as the latter did *M. Hornbeck* ten Years before. *M. Heim* was formerly Counsellor, and Treasurer-general. He is as able, and more mild and affable than his Predecessor. *Hornbeck* succeeded *Heinsius*, who was Pensionary during the last general War: His Predecessors were *Fagel*, *De Witt*, *Barneveldt*, &c.

*John Henry De Wassenaar*, Lord of *Obdam*, is Keeper of the Seals, Statholder and Register-general of the Fiefs of *Holland* and *West Friesland*. His Brother *Charles Lewis* has the Office of Grand Bailiff of the *Hague*, and Count *William Vincent* of *Hompesch* is Great Forester of *Holland*. These last three Offices became vacant on the Death of *M. De Boelzbaar*, which Gentleman and *M. Slingeland* were at the Head of the Republick for a  
confi-



considerable Time. They both died in 1736, within a few Days of each other.

*Greffier*, or Secretary *Fagel*, is the Idol of the People, and one of the principal Ornaments and best Heads of the Republick. He is an Encourager of learned Men, and a Person of extensive Learning himself. The Press considers him as one of its chief Supports, because he is sure to have every thing of Merit which it produces. He has a very noble Library, fine Paintings, and a Cabinet of the most valuable ancient and modern Curiosities, all which he takes a pleasure in shewing to the curious Stranger. He is now very old, and the Day of his Death will be one of universal Lamentation at the *Hague*, and throughout the Provinces. He has been a long Time in this honourable Post. I have seen a Letter to him from *Flanders*, wrote by *Ouverquerque* some few Days before that great General's Death. The Family of *Fagel* has given several able Statesmen to the Republick. The Great Pensionary *Fagel* succeeded *De Witt* in a very arduous Conjunction. The good understanding that subsisted between him and the Prince of *Orange* (K. *William* III.) very much contributed to the preservation of the State, after it had in a manner been reduced to its last Gasps, thro' the imprudent Jealousies, and violent Measures of his Predecessor.

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It remains now for us to speak of that illustrious Personage, WILLIAM CHARLES FRIZO, Prince of ORANGE, hereditary Stattholder of *Friesland*, and Stattholder of the Provinces of *Groningben* and *Guelderland*. He sustains with great Dignity the Glory of his Ancestors, and resembles one of the greatest of his House in many Things, but in none more than his Virtues and Sufferings. Like *William III.* Prince of *Orange*, and King of *Great Britain*, he was a posthumous Son, an Orphan before he saw the Light of this World. Like him, he no sooner came to the Years of Maturity, than he met with very hard Usage from the same Quarter; a Quarter from which one could least have expected it. He has borne all with true Magnanimity, a Greatness of Mind superior to Fortune, and Resignation to Divine Providence, which never abandons those who confide in it: and thus resembles his great Predecessor both in Prosperity and Adversity. He has added new Lustre to his great House, by marrying another Princess Royal of *Great Britain*, whose Virtues and fine Qualities do honour to her august Birth, as her Presence does to every Country where she resides. Like WILLIAM, he has a quick Discernment and solid Judgement; is munificent, serene, and temperate; and so

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moderate \* in respect to Titles and Honours, as to neglect those he has the justest Right to.

It is usual for Strangers of any Note, whether of the *British* Nation or others, to pass some Days at the Court of the Prince, and to pay their Compliments to their Highnesses. The Court during the Summer is at *Breda*, a fine strong City of *Brabant*, which, with its large Territory, containing seventeen considerable Villages, came to the House of *Nassau* by Marriage, about the Year 1400. King *William* rebuilt the Castle *a la moderne*. It forms a very beautiful Square of Free-stone, and is adorned with fine Gardens and a Park.

\* On a gold Medal of about 6 Guineas in value, struck upon the Prince's being elected Statholder of *Guelderland* and *Groningen*, is represented his Highness's Head with only this Legend: *Wilb. Car. Henr. Friso. D. G. Pr. Aur. & Nass. Gub. hær. Frisæ*: The other two Provinces being omitted. The same Modesty appears on the Reverse, which has only the Arms of the Cities of *Friesland*, with these Words: *Inf. Pr. Aur. et Nass. Urb. Frisæ*.

On the large Medal, value about 10 Guineas, which was struck on the Prince's Marriage in 1734, are represented the Heads of their Serene and Royal Highnesses, with these few Words, *Frisæ sic gloria crescit*. On the Reverse is an Altar with two flaming Hearts on it, and on the Side of it a Pediment, with the Arms of *Great Britain*, and *Brunswick Lunenburg*, and those of *Nassau Orange*. The Altar is supported by the Lion and Unicorn. On the right of it is an Orange-tree, and on the left a *Phœnix* in Flames, the Emblem of ardent and constant Love. The Legend is, *Tu vota, Jehovah, dedisti*. The Word *Jehovah* is in Hebrew Characters, surrounded with a Glory shedding benign Rays upon the Altar below. The Year of Marriage is mark'd MDCCXXXIV.



In Autumn the Court goes to *Dieren* and *Loo* in *Guelderland*, for the sake of Hunting; and usually passes the Months of *October* and *November* at *Oranjuez*, another of his Highness's Country Houses, some few Leagues from *Lewwarden*, in which City he resides during the Winter.

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A PARALLEL

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*A P A R A L L E L between the P O W E R  
of a S T A T H O L D E R and that of  
a K I N G of Great Britain.*

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**T**HE Regal Dignity is an essential part of the *British* Constitution; *Britain* having never been without a King but once, when the Constitution was dissolved.

**T**HE *Dutch* in all Times were governed by Sovereigns: In those of the *Romans* by Chieftains or Generals; in the middle Ages by their Counts; and 200 Years ago by the Dukes of *Burgundy*, and their Heirs, the Emperors of *Germany* and Kings of *Spain*. On the latter's inhuman Usage, and breaking the original Contract, they threw off their tyrannical Yoke, and declared the Sovereignty vacant; but instead of forming themselves into a Commonwealth, they elected the Duke of *Alanfon*, the K. of *France*'s younger Brother,

ther, their \* Sovereign. After his Retreat and Death, the Provinces being again without a Sovereign, they offered to transfer their Allegiance to Queen † *Elizabeth*. Hence it appears, that the *Dutch* formed themselves first into a Commonwealth, because they could not have a Sovereign of their own, who was able and willing to protect them; so that their instituting a Republick was accidental, and rather a Matter of necessity than choice. Since then, several of the Provinces, particularly *Holland* and *Zealand*, have offered their Sovereignty to the Princes of *Orange*; but those excellent Princes have always refused it. Those

\* See Strada De bell. Belg. Dec. 2. p. 179. and Bentivoglio's History of Flanders, p. 172.

† Camden's History of Q. Elizabeth, p. 320. Edit. 4.



two Provinces however made the Statholdership hereditary in the Person of *William III.* Prince of *Orange*, afterwards King of *Great Britain*, and his Heirs male.

The Crown of *Great Britain* is hereditary.

The Statholdership is elective, and yet so far hereditary, that the *Dutch*, from the invincible Ties of Gratitude, Affection, and Interest, have always continued that Dignity in the House of *Orange*.

The King has the absolute disposal of all the Forces by Sea and Land, and commands Marches, Sieges, Battles, and Fortifications, with unlimited Power. He has also the same in respect to Military Commands.

The Statholder is Captain General, and Admiral of the Forces of the State, but with a Power so limited, that he can neither order a March, lay a Siege, or fight a Battle, without Leave first had from his Masters the States, who have their Deputies in the Camp, that are the sole Depositories of the Secrets, and Authority of the Republick.

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publick. The General receives Orders, to which he is obliged to pay implicit \* obedience, from them. He has not the † absolute disposal of all Military Commands in all the Provinces. Besides, as he is absolutely dependent on each of them, and in a great Measure on every Town of them, which constitute the supreme Legislature, common Prudence prevents him from disposing of Military Honours as he

\* In the late general War these State Deputies were a mighty eye-fore to P. *Eugene* and the D. of *Marlborough*. The Prince being asked one Day, how it came to pass, that *Alexander* the Great and other Heroes made so rapid a Progress in one Year, and now all the greatest Generals could do, was to take a Town or two in a Campaign? he replied, the reason was, because *Alexander* and the ancient Conquerors had no Deputies from the States General in their Camps. It must be confessed, that those Gentlemen are a great Clog on wise and experienced Generals; but in the Case of young and rash Captains, they may sometimes be a necessary Curb. It is however to be observed, that those Deputies, whether in the Army or the Fleet, are generally not only Persons of great Abilities, but have also been Generals and Admirals themselves. Thus a *DeWitt* and a *Gossling*, acted at the same time as able Admirals and Generals, as well as State Deputies.

† Gubernator (*the Stattholder*) tempore belli dispensat munera militiæ, sed non omnia; aliaq; agit intra limites singularum (*provinciarum*) comprehensos. *Ev. Otton. Rerump. Europæ*, p. 427.

pleases, and obliges him to bestow them with the approbation of his Masters, who ask them for their Friends and Relations, and are not to be refused. In the Civil List he has not so much as the Nomination of an Excise-officer. Those are appointed by the Magistrates, as at *Venice*, and neither by the Statholder, nor the Doge.

The King has Power to pardon Criminals condemned.

He has not Power to put in or turn out the Magistrates of Boroughs. K. *James II.* attempted to assume this Power, which contributed, amongst other arbitrary Proceedings, to his own Expulsion. The King however appoints Lords Lieutenants of Counties, (a kind of nominal Governors) Sheriffs, &c. who all act under the Royal Commission.

The Statholder has the same.

In some of the Provinces the Statholder chuses the Magistrates upon the nomination of the Towns: For they return three to him, out of whom he elects one. In conjunction with the States of a Province he can also turn out a Magistrate.

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The King constitutes one third of the Legislature, and presides at all Times by his Chancellor in Parliament.

The King represents the Authority and Dignity of the State.

The King nominates Ambassadors to foreign Courts, who correspond only with him and his Ministers. Only they have Intelligence of the secret Affairs of *Europe*.

The King and his Ministers only make and sign all Treaties of Peace, Alliances, &c. which are not ratified in Parliament, being valid without that.

The Prerogatives of the Crown are fixed.

The Statholder has not so much as a Seat or Vote in the Assemblies of the States. He has no Share in their Deliberations, nor do they communicate any thing, however minute, to him, but as they please themselves.

The States General represent the Sovereignty, and the Statholder the Dignity of the State.

The States General nominate Ambassadors. The secret Affairs of *Europe* are communicated only to them.

The Statholders by order of the States have sometimes signed publick Treaties in conjunction with them, to give them the greater *Eclat*, not to make them the more authentick, or add more Authority to them.

The Prerogatives of the Statholder are alterable,

The King has a Revenue of 7 or 800,000*l.* per Ann.

The Splendor of the Throne keeps the Subject at considerable distance.

Both King *William* and Queen *Anne* once appropriated part of their Revenues to the Exigencies of the Publick.

terable, neither are they the same in any two of the Provinces.

The Appointments of the Statholder are very inconsiderable.

The Statholders in many respects are on a Level, and in some sort confounded with the Subjects of the Republick.

The Statholders by their great patrimonial Revenues from their Lands, sovereign Principalities, and Lordships in *France*, *Germany*, *Burgundy*, and several Parts of the United Provinces, have often been of the greatest Service to their dear Country. P. *William I. of Orange*,  
 “ the Father \* of his  
 “ Country, who preferred the Prosperity of  
 “ *Holland* to that of  
 “ himself and his Fa-

\* Pater patriæ, qui Belgii fortunis suas posthabuit et suorum, validissimos exercitus ære plurimum privato bis conscripsit, bis induxit. See the Epitaph at large below.

“ mily, twice raised  
“ and brought in a  
“ strong Army at his  
“ own Expence.” This  
the States-General de-  
clare in the Inscription  
of the *Mausoleum*, which  
they caused to be e-  
rected to that great Man  
at *Delft*.

Several of our Kings  
have either been passive,  
or actually in secret  
Leagues with, and in  
the pay of the Ene-  
mies of their Kingdoms.

The Statholders have  
all had the most tempt-  
ing Offers made them  
and their Family, if  
they would recede in the  
least from their Engage-  
ments to their Country;  
but they rejected them  
all with a generous Dis-  
dain, and would have  
no other Friends nor  
Enemies, but those of  
the Republick. As it  
was a Child of their  
own, they could not  
help having an Affection  
for it, and being ready  
at all Times to sacri-  
fice their Lives and all  
Things in defence of  
it. They were the Au-  
thors and Maintainers  
of

5



of its Liberties, first  
against the Tyranny of  
*Spain*, and lastly against  
a still more formida-  
ble Enemy at its Door,  
who had opened him-  
self a Passage into the  
Heart of its Domini-  
ons.

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MAXIMS

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MAXIMS *and* INTERESTS of  
*the* REPUBLICK.

FROM what we have just observed is evident, how much it is for the Interest of the *Dutch* to cherish and support an House, of whose Abilities, Faith, and Affection they have long had such shining and glorious Proofs, and to which under God they are entirely indebted for their Commencement, Defence, Protection, and Prosperity. The innate Abhorrence of Tyrants, and prevailing Passion for reducing the Power of the formidable Enemy of these Provinces, have suffered no Diminution in the Person of the Heir of that illustrious House. A wise People should redouble their Endeavours to support and defend it, in proportion to those of so potent an Adversary to reduce and crush it; there being no surer Sign of the Importance of a Family or Person to a State, than the indefatigable Efforts of its grand Enemy to ruin, or remove them out of the Way. The numberless Insults and terrible Invasions of this Country from that Quarter, and the imminent Dangers it is still exposed to from it, must give a considering People anxious Thoughts and just Apprehensions. Temporary Tranquillity, fine Words, and specious Behaviour, may indeed  
have

have soften'd and calm'd these Reflections to the politer Sort, but such Impressions are not easily worn out of the Minds of a whole People. And one may observe generally, that the Body of a Nation have juster Views for the publick Good, and pursue them with more Uprightness, than the Great, who have so many private Ends and particular Interests, that hang like a false Bias upon their Judgements, and may possibly (or rather really do) often dispose them to sacrifice the Good of their Country to their own personal Security, or the Establishment and Advancement of their Fortunes: On the contrary, the Gros of the People can have no other Prospect in respect to the Publick, than common Good, and the Interests of the State in general.

I would not be misunderstood here, as intending to insinuate the Necessity of a Statholder to these Provinces at all Times, which is far from my Thoughts: I only conceive, that the *Dutch*, not only out of Gratitude, but Interest, ought to cherish and honour an House, which in all times has proved their Barrier against the formidable Designs of their Enemies, and which they ought still to consider as a Resource, to which they may recur, as their wise Ancestors did before them, in a Day of Distress. I am not ignorant of what is usually said on this Occasion: *That during the last general War with France, the Republick did well enough without a Captain General:*

But



But Years and Ages may revolve, before the Republick experiences again the like favourable Circumstances, such Generals, with such Harmony between them, so many and so firm Alliances, and so general a Disposition in the Powers of *Europe* to humble and reduce the grand Disturber of it. Besides, was it not the Prince of *Orange*, King *William* III. who formed that glorious Confederacy at the *Hague*, and inspired it with so wise and salutary a Disposition? And when the Princes of that illustrious House had no Crowns upon their Heads, were they not always, to their own immortal Glory, and the Honour of their Country, the Life and Soul of all the Confederacies formed for the Defence of the Liberties of *Europe* in general, and of the United Provinces in particular? To conclude, I would only ask, whether in case of a War, and any great impending Danger of the State, its Allies would not be more cordially inclined to join the Camp of a Prince of *Orange*, than of any private *Dutch* Gentleman whatsoever?

That it is the Interest of this State to protect and enlarge her Commerce, to tolerate all Religions, to § maintain Peace whilst her Neighbours

§ This is a very dubious Point: For present Tranquillity, at the Hazard of consequential future Ruin, when the Success of a common Enemy against the natural Allies of a State may have made his Power irresistible, is certainly so far from good Policy, that it is as great and fatal a Weakness,

bours are at War, &c. are trite Topicks, in respect to which few can be ignorant; but there are certain Things relative to these, which are not so well known, and therefore may merit a little Observation.

*Holland* is as industrious to receive Strangers from all Parts, as other Countries are to get rid of them. It is a Maxim with the *Dutch*, *That no Nation can be too populous, provided it be industrious.* They admit all Strangers that come to settle amongst them, and immediately grant them all the Privileges of the Natives. The Magistrates take care of all poor Families that take Refuge under their Wings, till they are in a Condition to support themselves. And indeed from the Commencement of the Republick, during 170 Years, this little Spot has constantly been supplied with Foreigners from all Parts of *Europe*; many of whom brought with them the Arts, Industry, and even Treasures, which they could not enjoy with such Security in their native Countries. And this conduces exceedingly to the Wealth, Trade, and Strength of the State. No Country perhaps stands more in need of fresh Supplies of People than this. Their numerous Colonies abroad, their long *East India* Voyages, which are more than commonly fatal, their vastness, as a publick Council could possibly fall into. Ἐργήν γὰρ μετὰ μὲν τῷ δικαίῳ καὶ πρέποντι, κάλλιστόν ἐστι κτῆμα καὶ λυσιτελέσασθον· μετὰ δὲ κακίας ἢ δολείας ἐπονιδίσει, πάντων αἰσχρόν καὶ βλαβερότατον. Polyb. l. 4. See the whole Passage upon the Conduct of the *Messenians*.

Trade

Trade to all the other Parts of the World, seem in a manner to make it the Necessity of this little Republick to people the mighty Spaces of the Ocean itself. Besides which, what Numbers must be necessary to carry on the many various Manufactures which she has at home, and with which she supplies Nations much greater than herself! Add to this the remarkable Barrenness of the *Dutch* Women. In consequence, if this State had not constant and annual Supplies of Foreigners, it would be impossible for it to subsist, and it would be dissolved in a very few Years. *England*, that does not lie under this last Disadvantage, nor any of the rest in so great a Degree, without a perpetual Supply from the rest of the *British* Dominions and Strangers, would be depopulated in less than half a Century.

The Republick has at this time a fair Occasion of acquiring herself a potent Barrier on the Side of *Juliers* and *Berg*, by assisting the King of *Prussia* to make good his Claim to them. The seven Provinces are in a manner impregnable on their other Frontiers. The Barrier Towns, and those in *Dutch Brabant* and *Flanders* are so strong, that in the ordinary Method of Sieges it is next to impossible for the *French* King to break thro' them in less than two Campaigns, during which the States can form Alliances, and take proper Measures. But on the Side of *Juliers* and *Cleves* she is open quite to the Walls of *Nimeguen*, and from thence to the Heart of the Country. It



was from this Side *Lewis XIV.* made his mighty Invasion in 1672. and planted his Ensigns in the City of *Utrecht*. He began the last general War in 1702. from the same Quarter, when the Duke of *Burgundy* and Marshal *Boufflers*, without the least Opposition, appeared before the same City, and even passed the *Waal* with Part of their Army, which consisted of 60,000 Men. The *Dutch* indeed are not fond of the Neighbourhood of the King of *Prussia*: but of two Evils the Rule is to chuse the least. And as that Prince must entirely depend on the States for keeping *Marck* and *Juliers*, nothing but an utter Deprivation of Reason could induce him to disturb them in any respect. Some have been apprehensive for the inland Trade on the *Maes* and *Rhine*, if these Countries were in that Prince's Possession; but that Fear is founded in Error: For *Berg* lies on neither of those Rivers, and the Country of *Juliers* barely touches upon them in one Part.

Some have thought it were better for the *Dutch* to give up the Barrier to the Emperor, which, they say, subjects the States to many Inconveniencies, especially of clashing frequently with the Emperor, and of keeping 30,000 Men in Garrison in the Towns that form it; which, they add, would be better employed in strengthening the Garrisons of the Frontiers. But this I cannot give into: Besides which, there are but 12,000 Men in the Barrier Towns. At the

Conclu-

Conclusion of the last War all the Confederates were for giving the *Dutch* a Barrier; and the first foreign Affair to which King *George I.* applied himself after his Accession, was to obtain them as good a one, as the sad State in which he found Affairs would admit.

It has in all Times been the great Care of the wise Rulers of the Republick to banish every thing that looks like Pomp and Superfluity, from their Country; and the Clergy strenuously second such salutary Endeavours. They are always preaching against Assemblies, Gaming, Dancing, and fine Clothes. What a great Man said on these Heads, of the Cantons of *Switzerland*, may well enough be apply'd to the *Dutch* Provinces, especially since so many *French* Refugees have settled in them. For tho' the *Protestants* of that Nation generally observe a greater Plainness of Appearance and Simplicity of Manners, than those of the same Rank who are *Roman Catholics*, they have however too much of the Vivacity of their Country for the Genius and Constitution of this State. Should excessive Feasting, Dressing, Balls, &c. once gain ground in the Provinces, their military and mercantile Qualities would soon decline, and come to nothing; their Tempers would grow too soft and delicate for their Climate, and the peculiar Business and Works, for which Divine Providence seems to have designed them. Besides which, the Materials for Luxury must be brought from other Nations, and

that must exhaust and ruin a Country, which has but few Commodities of its own to export. Luxury is a fatal Disease in the Vitals of a State, as its natural Consequences are Rapine, Avarice, Injustice, and Venality. The Wants of the Luxurious perpetually increase, their Expences multiply, and the more they spend, the more they are reduced to find Supplies; which at last brings the Liberty of a Commonwealth with its Votes to Sale, if any inbred Faction, or foreign Power is disposed to pay the Price of them. The pernicious Effects of Luxury to a State never appeared in stronger Colours than in the Commonwealth of *Rome*; which immediately found itself poor, when that Vice prevailed, tho' in Possession of all the Riches of the World. In the Beginnings, and for almost the five first Centuries, we see the Contempt of Riches, Shew, and Luxury frequently inhabit under the same humble Roof with consummate Wisdom, exalted Virtue, and solid Glory. But as soon as the Taste for Pleasure, false Politeness, and glaring Magnificence has engrossed the People, what an huge Degeneracy ensues! Wild Ambition, Violence, Conspiracy, Faction, Civil War, and every worst Species of publick Iniquity, which soon terminate in the total Subversion of the Commonwealth, and Tyranny! It is no wonder therefore, that the prudent and able Governors of the *Dutch* Republick are perpetually labouring to discountenance every thing, which tends to introduce Vanity and Luxury; and that what they



they have not been able to prevent by salutary Laws, they endeavour to effect by the Force of their own Example, Conversation, and extensive Influence. Some of them even disapprove sending their Children to travel; lest they should imbibe a Taste in their unexperienced Years for the trifling Pomp, and dissolute Manners of foreign Courts, and in consequence be for making Innovations in the plain and wholsom Customs of their own Country.

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*The* REVENUES *of the* STATE.

THE ordinary Revenue of the Republick is about twenty one Millions of Gilders, near two Millions Sterling. During the War with *England* in 1665. they raised double that Sum, or about four Millions Sterling; and on the Occasion of the last general War, which began in 1702. and ended in 1713. they raised about five Millions every Year, which I believe the utmost Expence of which this State is capable.

The Proportion in that respect between this Republick, *England*, and *France*, is perhaps as 5, 7, and 14. *England* can raise seven Millions, and *France* fourteen, with equal Facility, or more properly speaking, by equally burthening the Subject.

And here it may not be amiss to remark a little upon the Conduct of some of our otherwise very eminent Politicians, who have stated the Revenues \* of *France* too low, and those of *England* too high, to serve a Turn, and promote particular

\* The gradual Increase of the Revenues of *France* may be seen in the following brief Account. In the Reign of *Charles VII.* they amounted only to 180,000 Livres. In *Lewis IX.* to 470,000. In *Lewis XII.* to 2,025,000. *Henry IV.* increased them to 19 Millions. They afterwards rose enormously, as *Grotius*, then Ambassador at the Court of *France*, informs us Epist. 1311. *Sperant ministri regis (Lud. XIII.) hujus anni (1640) redditus publicos per-venturos ad 70 milliones & amplius.*

cular Schemes and Hypotheses they had taken upon them to maintain. But it concerns *England* very nearly to have a just and certain Knowledge of the Strength of a Power, the only one upon Earth, from which she has any thing to apprehend. To over-rate the Strength of a formidable rival Power may be sometimes of bad consequence, but to under-rate it is always improper. The Vulgar, whom an honest Prejudice against an insolent Enemy, and the Sense of their National Glory inclines to cry out for War, and to believe themselves a Match for the whole World, because their Ancestors have in all Ages been victorious over the Enemies of their Country, and in particular the *French*, are too apt to measure the Power of other Nations by the latter Method; but publick Councils should have better Estimates.

In case of a War, or other pressing Occasions, the extraordinary Expences of the Republick are raised by levying the hundredth Part of the Estates of the People, a Poll-tax, and other extraordinary Methods.

The ordinary Revenue is raised by Customs, *amplius.* In *Pufendorff's* Time, when the Commerce and Manufactures of *France* were in Embrio under the great *Colbert*, they amounted to 150 Millions (the *French* Livre was then worth as much as a *Dutch* Gilder, or about 21 Pence *English*.) When those Manufactures were brought to Maturity in 1695. the Revenues of *Lewis XIV.* amounted to above 15 Millions Sterling. Nor is it likely that they should diminish now, when that flourishing Kingdom has an *East India* and other Companies, and has annexed the spacious and fine Country of *Lorraine* to its Dominions.



but chiefly by Excises upon Houses, Lands, and all Sorts of Provisions. The Customs are low and easy; it being the Maxim and great Care of the Magistrate to treat that great Source of Power, Trade, as gently as possible, for fear of driving so roving and unstable a Traveller into other Countries, that know her inestimable Value, and how to cherish her. Two great Men of the Republick merit being heard upon this Head. Their Words are: *Agri, ædes, annona, vestis, capita, nihil immune; quanquam mercaturæ præ cæteris parcerentur, regentium studiis, ne maximum atque instabile commercium aliò pelleretur.* Grot. Lib. V. Annal. ad Ann. 1588. de Hollandis. — *In Hollandia et Zelandia etiam nuptiis tributum impositum: sed ne mori quidem ibi licet impunè.* Illustris. Bynkershoek. II. Quæst. Jur. Publ. c. 22. To which we shall add that memorable, but true Saying of Charles V. from Strada (Lib VI. Bell. Belg.) *Nullos esse populos (modò paternè habeantur) qui servitutis nomen magis execrentur, servitutem magis patiantur.* And indeed some who have studied the Constitution of the Government, and usual Methods of Proceeding in respect to the Subject, think, that Liberty subsists no more here, than in the most despotick Countries, even Turkey itself. It were an ill-natured Thing however to undeceive the People: If they believe themselves happy, they are so, according to the Saying of their own Erasmus: *Crede quod habes, & habes.*

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*The* PRESENT STATE *of the* FORCES  
*of the* REPUBLICK.

**M**ONEY is not improperly called the Nerves and Sinews of War. We have seen the Revenues of the Republick, we come now to say something of her Forces.

The standing Troops in 1670. during a general Peace, were 26,200 Men; being ten Regiments of Horse, and nineteen of Foot, which cost the State annually 6,119,000 Guilders, about 600,000 l. Sterling. Formerly they usually employed in Time of Peace 30 or 40 Men of War in Convoys, besides some ready in their Harbours on all Occasions; and this Fleet, with the Expence of building new Ships, amounted to a Sum almost as great as that expended in the Land-service. Thus the Ordinary of the Army and Navy was about one Million of our Money. At present the Ordinary of the Navy, is considerably less.

*The Navy.* In 1666. the States had above 60,000 Landmen, and 100 Ships of War at Sea: And in *Cromwell's* Time, about 1652. and that of King *Charles*, not many less than 150. Battles between the greatest Fleets that ever met upon the Ocean, were then fought.

Besides

Besides the Strength of the *Dutch* at home, their *East India* Company in their Settlements are capable of putting a Fleet of 50 Men of War to Sea, and of raising at least 30,000 Men by Land; their Trade there being so large, that the same Author says, he has known two and twenty Ships arrive from thence in one Year.

In their Wars with *England* it was necessary to provide well for the Sea-service; in their Wars with *France* the Land-service was more immediately their Attention. Accordingly during the last general War with *France*, they had no very great Fleets at Sea; for besides Frigates and other less Ships, they had no more Ships of the Line than are set down in the following Account:

Ships		Ships	
In 1702	— 55	In 1707	— 49
In 1703	— 50	In 1708	— 53
In 1704	— 56	In 1709	— 50
In 1705	— 56	In 1710	— 43
In 1706	— 54	*In 1711	— 40 **

*Great Britain* and the States increas'd and diminish'd their respective *Quotas* in proportion to

\* Memorial of their High Mightinesses the States General presented to the Queen of *Great Britain* April 3, 1712.

\*\* The Reason that our *Quota* of Land-forces in *Flanders* were so small, in comparison with those of the States, might be, because *Great Britain* by its Situation lay more open and exposed by Sea to the Enemy, as the United Provinces did by Land. However, I own, I do not find this Reason alledged in any of the Treaties between the two Powers.

the



the Force they judged the Enemy in a Condition to put to Sea each Year. And indeed the two Maritime Powers seem to have over-done it, having always greater Fleets at Sea than perhaps were actually necessary; at least the States General were of that Opinion. After the Loss sustained by *France* at *Vigo* in 1702. and the other in the Sea-fight near *Malaga* in 1704. she was in no Condition to put any considerable Fleet to Sea. The *British* and *Dutch* Fleets acted both separately, and in Conjunction. The two Squadrons, which were sent to *Portugal*, and the *Mediterranean*, acted in Conjunction: The Security of the Channel was left to the Queen's particular Care; because *Great Britain* had a greater Interest in point of Commerce in the Channel, and could by its Situation, and the Conveniency of its Harbours, keep Ships there more commodiously than the STATES. On the other hand, the North Seas were left to the States General, who from the same Motive, the Security of their Trade, could send and keep Ships there with more Conveniency than *Great Britain*. Cases of Necessity however were reserved, on which Occasions the two allied Powers were to act in Conjunction; as in case the Enemy should make and send any extraordinary Armament to a certain Place: but that never happen'd. As to the rest, we shall give an Account of the Navy of the Republick, when we come to speak of the Arsenal of *Amsterdam*.

After

*Land Forces.* After the Treaty of *Ryswick* in 1697. the States kept 44,992 Men in Pay: *Great Britain* 8000. In 1687. when the *French* King was at Peace with all his Neighbours, he had an Army of above 200,000 Men in Pay.

At the Beginning of the last general War, the States by Treaty furnished in the *Netherlands* 102,000 Men; viz. 42,000 for Garrisons, and 60,000 for the Field: *Great Britain* only 40,000. By subsequent Treaties the *Quotas* of both Powers were augmented according to the Exigency of Affairs; that of the States to 129,458 Soldiers, and that of the Queen to 72,197. Deducting the smaller Number from the greater, the Remainder is 57,261; so that the *Dutch* ought to have had in *Flanders* during that War, 57,261 fighting Men more than the *English*. I believe, in *Spain* and *Portugal* we might have 15 or 16,000 Men in Pay more than the States; but that is far from making the Numbers equal: Besides which, the States were at the Charge of all the Powder and Ball expended in the many Sieges laid by the Duke of *Marlborough*, during nine Campaigns: an enormous Sum undoubtedly, and not easily computed. It was at their Cost the Fortifications of the Towns then taken were repaired, and their Magazines filled up: Amazing Efforts for so small a State! the whole seven Provinces not exceeding five or six of our middling Counties in Extent,

Formerly

Formerly in their Treaties with the great Powers of *Europe*, the Emperor, *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Spain*, the Regulation for the States was on the Foot of one third, or two fifths; in Treaties of a later Date their *Quota* has been augmented, and for every 12,000 Men supplied by the other Powers, the States furnish 8,000.

The three preceding Years, as well as this 1740. the States have had 36,000 Men on Foot, including the 12,000 in the Barrier Towns.

The strong frontier Towns of the Republick garrison'd by their Forces, are, to take them in a Line, *Sluys*, *Sas van Ghent*, *Hulst*, *Lillo* a Fort, *Bergen op Zoom*, *Breda*, *Boisleduc*, the *Grave*, and *Nimeguen*; and on the *Maes*, *Venlo*, *Maestricht*, and the Fort of *Stevensweert*. Her five Barrier Towns are on the Side of *France*, and are *Namur*, *Tournay*, *Menin*, *Ipres*, and *Furnes*. These Towns all together form a kind of Line of Circumvallation round the *Austrian Netherlands*. The Emperor knows That, and left the Defence of the *Netherlands* to the States, during his late *Turkish* War, having in a manner evacuated them from the Beginning of it. The Garrisons are changed every three Years; but were not in 1737. to avoid giving Umbrage to *France*; so critical was the State of Affairs at that time.

The Barrier Towns belong to the Emperor: They are only garrisoned by the States, towards the Expence of which his Imperial Majesty gives 500,000 Crowns by Treaty. There are at present



sent six Regiments in *Namur*, five in *Tournay*, five in *Maastricht*, one in *Sluys*, &c. Those Regiments are not five hundred Men each compleat. *Maastricht* is reckoned the Capital of all those Towns, and has the greatest Magazines. That City, *Namur*, *Tournay*, &c. have been often described as Places of vast Strength; but *Ipres* is perhaps much stronger than all of them. It lies in a large and deep Morass, and is fortified with very solid and high Ramparts. It has but one Gate towards the *Terra firma*, and that is undermined. The Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene* were for three or four Years within half a League of it, but never attempted it. It was given up by Treaty in Exchange for *Lisle*, which was restored to *France*.

The Republick has had no General in Chief since the Marshal *D'Auverquerque*, who died of Fatigue and Age in the Camp 1708. The three oldest Generals are *Holstein Beck*, Governor of *Bosch*, *Collier* of *Namur*, and *Polen* of *Breda*. Prince *William* of *Hesse Cassel* is Governor of *Maastricht*, and General of the Horse. The Count of *Nassau* is Governor of *Sluys*. The Prince of *Hesse Homburgh* has the Government of the City and Castle of *Tournay*, in which he succeeded the ancient *Monteze*, who commanded a Regiment of *French* Protestants in King *William's* Service. That Prince recommended them to the States, and all the Officers are still *French*. *Mon-*

*teze*

*teze* succeeded General *Murray*. The Baron of *Cronstroom* is Governor of *Ipres*.

The three *Scotch* Regiments in the Service of the States are commanded by the Generals *Collier*, *Cunningham*, and *Hacket*, and are on the same foot with the rest.

It is remarkable, that almost the whole Army of the States are Foreigners. The Generals mentioned above, are all either *Scots*, or *Germans*. The *Germans* abound in the Towns of the United Provinces, and render \* them populous. They are far more in Number even than the *French* Protestants. Other Countries abound with superfluous People; this wants Men to fill her Offices in the Army, Navy, Civil List, and for her Manufactures. The younger Sons of the *German* Princes come hither, and make their Fortunes. The Fleets are mann'd by Multitudes of *Swedes* and *Danes*, who find it better living aboard the *Dutch* Vessels than their own.

The Encouragement and Pay in the *Dutch* Service of the STATES are the best in *Europe*, except the *British*; but in Point of Exactness perhaps they exceed us. The Foot Soldier has 35 Stivers per Week, of which seven is deducted for his Clothes, &c. The remaining 28, about our Half Crown, they have for their Subsistence. A Captain's Pay is 12,000 Florins, or 120 l. Sterling per Annum. He has also the clothing

\* *Batavia* abundat multitudine hominum, quia est asylum totius Germaniæ. Superflua est ibi copia hominum. *Carvingiana*. p. 307.

of his Company, and Ten Crowns for every Man that falls in Battle; which is given to encourage Bravery, and that the Officers should not be too sparing of their Men, thro' Fear of the Expence in raising them.

In *Holland* it is very difficult to raise Soldiers, Men being scarce, and only here and there a loose idle Fellow to be found: All are employed either in Trade, Manufactures, or Sea-service. And yet the States are never at a Loss for Soldiers. They have them from *Flanders*, *Brabant*, *Liege*, and other Countries upon the Borders of *Germany*. A *Dutch* Officer no sooner beats up for Recruits, than Numbers flock to him, encouraged by these Reasons: First, as we have just said, the Pay is good, and exact. Secondly, their High Mightinesses punctually keep their Word with them. The Soldier lists for what Number of Months or Years he pleases; at the Expiration of which Term, were there ever so hot a War, he has his Discharge on Demand. And thirdly, the Humanity of the Officers. They have been so accustomed to use their Servants well, according to the Laws of *Holland*, that they cannot get the better of that Habit to treat the Soldiers with Insolence and Brutality. In the United Provinces there is a Kind of Equality, natural indeed in Republicks, that prevails between all Orders of the People. Domesticks in consequence are upon a quite different Footing here, to what they are in all other Countries.



Countries. If in this Land of Liberty the greatest Lord strikes his Servant with a Cane, the latter sues him, and can immediately recover a considerable Sum of Money from him by way of Amends. But I don't remember ever to have heard of a Complaint of this kind, or the least Ground for such a Complaint.

In treating of the Strength of the United Provinces we ought not to omit their Situation, which constitutes much their greatest Security. On the West and North they have the Ocean; on the South next *Flanders* and *Brabant* are Arms of the Sea, large Rivers, and Canals; so that they are absolutely inaccessible on that Side. On the East lies *Westphalia*, from which they have nothing to fear, except another Bishop *Galen* should rise up; and on the South-east *Fuliers* and *Cleves*, on which Side there is a terrible Opening, as has been before observed.

If this State were reduced to the last Extremities by an Enemy, she would probably, in order to save herself, have recourse to one of these Methods: She would unite herself to the Empire, and becoming a Member of it under the Name of the Circle of *Belgium*, be entitled to its Protection. *Charles V.* Emperor of *Germany*, and Sovereign of these Provinces, designed to annex all the seventeen to the Empire, under the Name of the Circle of *Burgundy*. Another Resource would be to fly to the *East Indies*, where they have much larger Territories and Settlements

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than

than the little Spot they now inhabit. In the dreadful Year 1672. the *Dutch* had Thoughts of having recourse to this Expedient, and accordingly an exact Account having been taken of the Ships fit for so long a Voyage, they were found to be enough to transport two hundred thousand Persons to the *East Indies*. A third Resource, but a desperate one, would be to lay their Country under Water, and to drown the Enemy, tho' at the Hazard of their own Lives. Most of them might † save themselves from perishing, by getting on board their Vessels and Boats of all Sorts, which are innumerable in this Maritime Country.

Besides *France*, and the Ocean, the *Dutch* have a third Enemy, against whom their High Mightinesses should be on their Guard; but who, I am afraid, has hitherto escaped their Vigilance. This Enemy, as well as his Method for ruining them, is somewhat extraordinary. The Pope, not knowing how to get at this Nest of Hereticks, at length fell upon the shrewd Design of cutting them off by Famine. The Project was bold, and in every Respect worthy of the Court of

† They might effectually revenge themselves in destroying the Enemy, by laying their Country under Water, and flying to *England*, which would undoubtedly receive, and incorporate them. They would enjoy there not only their civil and religious Liberties, but the finest, and most plentiful Country upon Earth, which has Room enough for much greater Numbers than the *Dutch*; witness the vast Tracts of Land that lie uncultivated for ~~an~~ hundred Miles together, even about *London*, in Forests and Chaces, as well as in many other Parts of the Kingdom; besides which, the Lands in many Counties are miserably cultivated, and not improved, for Want of Inhabitants.

Rome.

*Rome.* On the Occasion of electing a King of *Poland*, she proposed to erect a Monarchy in the North, composed of *Poland*, *Sweden*, and *Denmark*, and to employ their united Force against *England*, and the United Provinces, in order to reduce both under the Yoke of *Spain*. If the *Dutch* could not be conquered by Arms, they were to be starved into Subjection, by stopping the Transportation of *Polish* Corn thro' the Sound. This being so extraordinary a Piece of History, and discovering a new Method for reducing these Provinces, unknown, I believe, to all their Writers, I think it not improper to give the Original a Place here. It is in the *Italian* & Language, and probably wrote within the Walls of *Rome*, the Year before the Equipment of the invincible *Armado*; from which it appears, that the Designs were vaster, and the Scene more universal, which were to distinguish that ever memorable Year, than have hitherto been generally imagined.

§ Se dall' altro canto il Principe di Suetia essendo Rè (*of Poland*) rivolgesse l'armi contro il Rè di Dania, suo natural nemico, non è dubbio, che il non potrebbe resistere alle vaste forze d'un Rè tale; & dal acquisto di quel regno di Dania nascerebbe utile grandissimo alla Religione Catolica, non solamente per la estirpatione d'un Principe, & di pessima natura, come il Rè di Dania; ma per l'aiuto, che potriano perciò ricevere le cose Catolici in *Flandra*, essendo in potere, di esso Rè di Dania, col vietare solamente il transito de grani, che passano di Danzico in Olanda & Zelanda, di far morire quelli Stati della fame; oltre il molti aiuti di gente, & di vettovaglie, che si dello stretto di Danimarca fusse Patrone un Principe Catolico, si potriano mandare, par quel mare di Septentrione in qual si voglia impresa contra Heretici, & principalmente contra la Regina (*Elizabeth*) d'Inghilterra. Discorso sopra l'Elettione da farsi del nuovo Rè di Polonia, 1587. This Piece is in *Honorius's* Thesaurus, Tom. I. P. 459.



But these grand Schemes of the Court of *Rome*, as well as the Predictions of one of her ablest Ministers not long after concerning the Downfall of the Republick, proved abortive. We shall conclude this Chapter with a few Reflections on those Conjectures or Predictions.

Cardinal *Bentivoglio*, who was for some time the Pope's Nuncio in the *Low Countries*, has wrote an Account of them, and also an History of their Wars, wherein he proposes, and industriously examines this Question: *What Judgment may be formed concerning the Duration or Downfall of this Commonwealth?* After giving some Reasons which seem to favour its Perpetuity, he proceeds to others, to shew that a contrary Opinion is most probable.

Our Author uses a Train of Causes and Effects, of which some are pretty far fetched; but such Subtleties and Refinements in Matter of Politicks is of the Nature of the *Italian* Genius, and especially of the Court of *Rome*.

*Liberty*, says he, generates *Licence*; *Licence* Inequality; and Inequality Monarchy. Thus the *Romans*, when they had expelled Kings, abandoned themselves to the Enjoyment of *Liberty*. The Inequality of Charges and Honours afterwards introduced Division, Ambition, Faction; till at last they fell under the Dominion of Emperors.

As Bodies politick, no more than the Individuals that compose them, are not immortal, it is far from impossible, but that this or the like

Causes

Causes may dissolve the present Form of Government. But his Eminency might have remember'd, that the *Roman* Commonwealth subsisted no less than five Centuries, and that it was not entirely subverted, till Riches and Luxury had introduced universal Corruption and Depravity; and that the modern Republick, whose Fall he was foretelling, had not been instituted half a Century, and was hitherto entirely free from those fatal Vices; so that his Predictions are rather too early not to be sophisticate, when he conceiv'd them.

*The Authority of the Statholder*, according to the Cardinal, was too great; the Authority however of the States is above it; for he can only advise and recommend Counsels, but they command them to be put in execution. The Authority and Weight of the Statholders in the Republick were indeed too strong for the Views both of *Spain* and *Rome*, and therefore could not but give Offence to their Minister. It was under their forming Hands and Defence that this State threw off the double Yoke of those Courts, and rose to that Height of Power, Dominion, and Happiness they possess at this Day.

The Charges of the War in the Nuncio's Time were excessive and incredible, so that he thought the Treasures of the States must soon be exhausted. — But was the Condition of the Enemy better? The only Difference between them was,

that the latter grew Beggars, whilst the former became rich under their Oppression.

It was farther urged, *That the Province of Holland is much superior to the rest in Strength and Riches; and in consequence MAY usurp Dominion over them.* It is indeed no easy matter absolutely to refute Possibilities; but in the present Constitution of Things it is to be consider'd, that all the Provinces are equal in Authority, and do not intermeddle in the Affairs of each other. Besides, were the Province of *Holland* to attempt any Thing against the Liberties of any other, all the rest would immediately take the Alarm; and the six would undoubtedly be strong enough to reduce one to Reason. The Republick has subsisted now about 170 Years, without any Instance of one Province's attempting to tyrannize over another, so as to give any Room for a Disunion. The wise Heads of *Holland* well know, that they should gain nothing, and endanger all Things by such an Attempt.

To conclude, the Cardinal lays great Stress upon the Diversity of Religions: but that is so far from being a Source of Discord, that it is a Tie of Peace and Unity; every body being satisfied with enjoying Liberty of Conscience. Indeed in most other Countries different Opinions disturb the Harmony of Conversation and civil Society; for which Reason Governments are as careful to maintain the Unity of Religion, and keep out Sects, as they are to keep out suspected Persons



Persons and Commodities in Time of a Plague. But here there are no Grounds for any such Precaution. And indeed what Difference is there between divine Service in an Edifice without a Steeple and Bells, and in one that has both? For my Part, I believe the Roman Catholicks themselves, whom the Cardinal had chiefly in his Thoughts, are to the full as well pleased with their Chapel at *Amsterdam*, as they would be with *St. Peter's*, or *Notre Dame*, at *Rome* and *Paris*. If any Disturbance should arise in this State on the score of Religion, if we may judge from the past, it will not be occasioned by the Sects, but by the two prevailing Parties in the establish'd Church; I mean the *Coccejan* and *Voetian*. But their High Mightinesses are much too prudent and circumspect to suffer these Feuds to come to any Head; and their Deputies, who preside in all the Synods with great Authority, would make short Work with any over-zealous Person, who should presume to disturb the publick Tranquillity with his intemperate Heat. Changes in Religion induce Changes in civil Government; and the mighty Flame blown up in the last Century from a small Spark by two Doctors † of *Leyden*, which even endanger'd the Constitution, is still fresh in every body's Memory; but in all human Probability nothing of this kind will ever happen for the future.

† *Arminius & Gomarus.*

Thus all the Nuncio's Arguments seem to me to make against himself; and if we may pronounce upon them from the Experience of an hundred Years, instead of the pernicious Effects he denounces from them, they have all conduced to the Augmentation and Establishment of the State. They shew however the Vanity of deciding absolutely concerning Futurity: That is the Prerogative of the allwise Ruler of the World, which he will not divide with his Creatures.

The Constitution, Government, and present Felicity of a State afford us however great Room to form just Conjectures concerning its future Fortune.

If we consider the Causes of founding this State, we cannot believe that it will be easily dissolved: These were the Recovery of lost Liberty, and the Preservation of it when regained; two Things highly dear to all Mankind, but especially the Northern Nations of the World. The Liberties of its own People are not only secure in Effect, but none of its Neighbours apprehend the Loss of theirs by the Augmentation of its Power; so that, excluding the ambitious Views of a certain Court, it is the Interest of none of them to promote a Change. The Republick does not desire a Foot of Land more than she possesses; and instead of alarming any neighbouring Powers by her Measures, the constant Tenour of her Endeavours is to preserve  
Peace

Peace and Amity between them. Perhaps she could be satisfied with having a Town or two, as *Ruremonde* and *Limburg*, from the Emperor; but they are too inconsiderable to affect him, or any other Power whatsoever; and she only desires them with the View of being more secure, not more powerful in any other Sense, or more capable of disturbing her Neighbours.

Besides, if we cast our Eye back to the first Change, we shall find it such as pleased every body. In matter of Government it is certain, when a Nation passes from one Extreme to another, many of the People continue prejudiced to, and hanker after the old Establishment: but here the Case was different; for except the happy Change of Sovereign, the Person of the King of *Spain* for the States General, none was made in the Laws, Constitutions, Magistracy, and Customs of these Provinces; so that the Innovation was scarce sensible to the Body of the People. And this seems to have fully verified the Maxim, *That those States, which vary least from their ancient Establishments in changing the Form of their Governments, are likely to subsist the longest.*

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## TRADE *and* MANUFACTURES of the United Provinces.

THE vast Commerce of these flourishing Provinces has been so often, and so amply treated, that to resume the Subject at this time of Day, were in a manner to want sufficient Regard for the Publick. Not that I think the Generality of our Writers upon this Head, who do but copy one another, seem to have had any certain Knowledge of their Subject, or have treated every Part of it with the Exactness it required. However, all I shall do here, will be to set a few Things in a true Light, and then proceed to give the present State of the Trade between these Provinces and *Great Britain and Ireland*; a Matter, however important for us to know, which has hitherto been very superficially touched upon by others.

The Profit, which the *Dutch* make by the Herring Fishery, has been || magnified exceedingly above the Truth. *Pufendorff, Introd. c. 6. Sect.*

|| Some tell us, that this Trade occasions the building of 1000 Ships every Year; that the *Dutch* have made five Millions Sterling of it in one Year, and that they employ 8000 Fishing Vessels on our Coasts. Others talk of 20,000 Ships, and 400,000 Men employed in this Trade. When People get into this Way, no Bounds can be set to their Extravagance.

*Seet.* 20. has observed upon some of excessive Computations: It must not however be denied, that this Trade is highly beneficial, and employs a great Number of Hands. *Grotius* says, it is chiefly for the last Reason that his Country kept up this Trade, for that in other Respects it was by no means lucrative. But perhaps that great Man talks here like a Statesman and Politician, to conceal the great Profits which the *Dutch* make of it; and the *Diffimulator opis propriae, sibi commodus uni*, of *Horace* may be well enough applied to him on this Occasion.

It is a pity the *English* have in a manner dropt the Whale Fishery. Last Year 1739. the *Hollanders* had no less than 133 large Ships at *Greenland*, which brought home 676 Whales, besides 59 at *St. David's*, which returned with 51. *Hamburg* the same Year had 15 Ships; *Altena*, that belongs to *Denmark*, five, and *Bremen* nine; of all which the Returns were considerable. The *Dutch* call this Fishery, *The Lesser Fishery*.

The *West India* Company still continues in a low Condition, its Actions or Stock being sunk almost to nothing. Its projected Coalition with the other great Company is not like to take Place; the latter being too rich, and the former too poor. The *East India* Company maintains her Grandeur,

travagance. These Exaggerations must however be owned to be honestly intended. The Design of them was to excite the Attention of the *British* Nation, and to induce them to apply their Industry to the Fishing Trade, for which they are more commodiously situated, and to which they have undoubtedly a better Right.

notwith-

notwithstanding the new Establishments in other Countries. *Gottenburg*, where the *Ostend* Company was in Hopes of reviving, and of carrying on her Trade by her Agents, has had but two Ships hitherto. At this Day, for two or three Millions of Gilders in Specie, which the *Dutch* Company sends to the *East Indies*, they bring home fifteen or sixteen Millions in Goods, of which the twelfth or fourteenth Part is consumed amongst themselves; the rest is re-exported to the other Countries of *Europe*, for which they are paid in Money. Of late they have lost several Ships. I happened one Day with Concern to mention those Losses to a considerable Person of the Company, who answered with great Coldness, that if they lost five or six Ships every Year, that made only a Difference of five or six *per Cent*. I was amazed at the Unconcern and Indifference with which that Gentleman expressed himself; and immediately remember'd the § Description an able Historian has given us of this People in general, which is so much to the Life, and so pertinent to the present Occasion, that I cannot forbear transcribing it, tho' somewhat long.

From their Colonies at *Surinam* the *Dutch* have Sugar, Gums, Tobacco, Rum, Rice, Ar-

§ Nulli mortalium pari solertia terram ac mare ad quæstum exercent, utriusque cultores elementi atque incerti juris. In hoc etiam perquam admirabiles, quod quantumcunque lucrum jacturamve, quæ (ut in mercatura) persæpe faciunt, tam modico furdoque lætitiæ ac doloris sensu prætereunt, ut alienis interesse, non sua curare credas; æquitate, ut opinor, animi, ac cœlo illos suo frigidius animante. *Strada, Lib. 1. Belg.*

rack,



rack, Balm, Coffee, Woods for dying and other Uses, and candied Oranges and Lemons.

They divide the *Levant* Trade with the *English*. By the *Levant* Trade is understood that carried on in *Italy*, *Greece*, *Asia Minor*, and *Egypt*. Our fine Cloths and Tin find a good Market there, and give us the Superiority in this Branch of Trade to the *Dutch*. They however have a considerable Traffick in those Parts, and are at great Charges to maintain it. They have many Consuls here; and the *Dutch* Ambassador at the *Porte* is partly paid by the Directors of the *Levant* Trade, who almost every Year are obliged to send him and the Consuls rich Presents, to be distributed amongst the principal Ministers of the Grand Signior.

Their Trade to the North or *Baltick*, which includes *Denmark*, *Norway*, *Sweden*, *Russia*, *Poland*, and the North Coast of *Germany*, is superior to that of the *English*. It is however far from what it was before the Institution of the new Companies at *Copenhagen*, *Stockholm*, and the Increase of the Trade of *Hamburgh*.

By the *Rhine*, *Maes*, *Scheld*. and other great navigable Rivers, the *Dutch* carry their Merchandize into the very Heart of the Empire and *Austrian Netherlands*.

With regard to *France*, the *Dutch*, as well as all other Nations whatsoever, are Losers in Trade. The *French* take nothing from others but Money. The *Dutch* import yearly vast Quantities of Wine  
and

and Brandy from thence, chiefly for their own Consumption; as also fine Paper, and Toys.

Their Trade to *Spain* and *Portugal* is on a far better Foot. They send great Quantities of Goods to *America* in the Name of *Spaniards*, and have even discover'd a Method for trading directly to the *Spanish West Indies* from *Curacao*, a small Island in their Possession at no great Distance from *Cartagena*. They have also, under the Name of the *Spanish Company*, great Shares in the Plate Fleets that arrive yearly in the Ports of *Spain*.

I come now to consider the Trade of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* to and from the United Provinces. I shall begin at *Amsterdam*, and trace the Commerce through every Part of *Holland*, *Zealand*, and *Flanders*, to *Calais* in *France*.

One Year with another about 60 Sail of Ships from *Great Britain* and *Ireland* enter the *Texel*. In 1738. forty six Ships enter'd it from *England* only. *Rotterdam* is generally thought to be in the sole Possession of our Trade; but that Mistake arises from our Ships being more conspicuous there, than in the Port of *Amsterdam*, where they are in a manner lost among whole Fleets of other Nations; besides which there is no ordinary Passage from thence for *England*, as there is from *Rotterdam*, which lies more commodiously for that purpose.

Besides many Ships from *Hull*, *Yarmouth*, *Whitby*, *Liverpool*, *Dublin*, *Cork*, &c. there is about

about a Dozen || Sloops, which ply the Trade continually between *London* and *Rotterdam*. They make five or six Trips every Year, and Passengers are no inconsiderable Part of their Business. Some Years ago there were fifteen or sixteen of these Sloops.

*Dort* is now an abandoned Port, being visited only by a few Colliers from *Sunderland*. Formerly it had much of our Trade, and was the Staple for Rhenish Wines. But *Rotterdam* has ingrossed it; and indeed that City, as it lies in the midst of a kind of Group of the great Cities of *Holland*, is a more convenient Port for our Trade than any other.

*Middleburg*, the Capital of the Province of *Zealand*, endeavours to share in our Trade with *Rotterdam*, and for that Purpose has reduced the Customs almost to nothing: but *Middleburg* lies out of the way. All the Trade it has as yet, consists in some few Colliers from *Scotland*, about half a Dozen more from *Hull* and *Yarmouth*, and three Sloops, or, as they are called, Packet Boats from *London*. They make five or six Returns in the Year, and have sometimes the Advantage of Passengers, as the Passage is more direct, and less impeded by inland Sailing than

|| There is an Opportunity of going every Week in one or other of these Sloops to and from *London*. They are large Vessels from 100 to 200 Tons. The Passage, which is sometimes very tedious, costs 15 Shillings, besides a Guinea for the Cabin, and three Shillings for every Dinner with the Captain. The Packet is both the most expeditious and the cheapest Passage.

that



that from *Rotterdam*. As this Province is obliged to bring its Turf from *Holland*, having none of its own, they now begin to burn nothing but *Scotch* Coal, which makes a much finer Fire, and comes at an easier Rate than Turf.

*Ter-veer* is the Staple for the Trade from *Scotland*, and has gained much by it; but *Rotterdam* has deprived this Town also of Part of its Commerce. About 80 or 100 Sail from *Scotland* enter this Port yearly, laden chiefly with Coals, Lead, Salmon, Stockings, and other Woollen Manufactures of *Scotland*, of which Nation there are between five and twenty or thirty Families settled here. Their Privileges are great: for which Reason the *English*, who also trade hither, think proper to be all *Scotchmen*. They pay no Duties, and have Judges and Tribunals of their own. On the Stathouse are the Statues of the Sovereigns of this Signiory, Predecessors to the Princes of *Orange*, very well done. The first is *Henry de Borfellen*, who lived about 600 Years ago. He married *Jaune* (for so the Name is spelt) the Daughter of a King of *Scotland*, who sent with her a great Fleet of Ships for those Times. Hence the *Scots* date their Settlement and Privileges in this City.

At *Flusbing*, another Town of *Zealand*, are always to be seen small *English* Vessels of about 20 or 25 Tons, that run over to the *English* Coast with Brandy, Teas, and other contraband Goods, and as soon as they have met their Associates, which

which is done without putting into any Harbour, they return for a fresh Cargo. As the prime Cost of their Wares are next to nothing in *Zealand*, they can afford good Pennyworths to those they deal with here. *Zurick-zee*, and other small Towns of this Province also buy our Coals.

Let us now go over to the *Flemish* Coast. *Sluys*, which above two hundred Years ago was in possession not only of our Trade, but that of a great Part of *Europe*, has now absolutely no Trade at all. It was supplanted by *Bruges* and *Antwerp*, as those two great Cities were afterwards by *London* and *Amsterdam*. *Bruges* indeed continues to enjoy a small Trade by the Canal of O S T E N D.

This last Place is the best of the three Ports of *Flanders*, and sends our Goods in small Vessels called *Bilanders*, of which it has about 100, into the very Heart of the Country. There are four *English* Sloops which constantly ply the Trade between *Ostend* and *London*, and make four or five Trips in the Year: They have also some Advantage by Passengers. Besides these, there are three large *English* Vessels here, that trade to *Cadix*, and the Straits. They belong to Merchants of *London*, but never touch on any Part of *England*. Four more are employed in bringing over Cloth, Stuffs, and other bale Goods, about twelve Colliers, most of them from *Sunderland*. When Corn is scarce in *Spain* and elsewhere, Numbers of Vessels, principally *English*,

load *Flemish* Wheat here. The Natives have few Ships of their own, so that the Trade is carried on in foreign Bottoms. The *Flemish* Wheat is cheaper than the *English*; and the *English* being the humbler Nation of the two, are contented to be their Carriers.

Three Leagues South of *Ostend* lies *NIEU-PORT*. Its Haven is so choaked up, that only small Vessels can enter it. Our chief Trade hither is in Coals, which are sent up the Country to *Ipres*, *Tournay*, &c. for the Use of Blacksmiths.

Six Leagues farther lies *DUNKIRK*, which the *French* King has very prudently made a free Port. It has a great Trade, and brings him in a greater Revenue, than it did, when he consider'd it as the Bulwark of his Kingdom on the Side of *England* and the *Low Countries*. *Lisle*, the Capital of *French Flanders*, is a most flourishing City in effect of its great Trade and Manufactures. These two Places are the best improv'd of all the *French* Conquests. They are a great Eye-sore to *Imperial Flanders*, *Ostend*, *Bruges*, *Ghent*, *Antwerp*, *Brussels*, and the other great Cities, who are griev'd to see the *French* King more attentive to the Prosperity of his Subjects, than the Emperor. Had so flourishing a Company, as that of *Ostend*, been established at any of the *French* Ports, the King of *France* would have protected it against any Power whatsoever. It is highly probable, that in  
case



case of a War in *Flanders*, these Cities will take the first fair Opportunity to exchange their Masters; and to speak impartially, they cannot be much to blame, if they should take proper Measures for preventing their Ruin. All the Places, which have lately been conquer'd and annex'd to the Crown of *France*, enjoy a good Trade, and have great and thriving Manufactures, whilst the People grow rich, and have Plenty of Money, to the meanest of them. Their Master also is both able and willing to defend them against invidious Neighbours. On the other hand the Emperor is poor, and makes his Subjects poorer. He does nothing on his Part to encourage the Trade and Manufactures of these once flourishing Provinces. He knows, add they, that there is still some Money to be raised amongst us from our Industry, and the Fertility of our Soil, and that he takes care to transport to *Vienna*, for carrying on an unjust War with the *Turks*, who had committed no Infractions of Treaty, to the Disgrace of the Christian Name, and the Ruin of the Subject. In these, and still stronger Terms, have I heard both the Clergy and Laity express themselves in respect to their present low Condition.

The Port of *Dunkirk* is crouded with the Vessels of most Nations. Besides other *English* Ships, there are no less than six *London* Sloops that trade hither perpetually. They make six or seven Trips a Year. Their Lading from *En-*  
K 2
*gland*

*gland* is chiefly Tobacco, Rice, and some Bale Goods; and they lade them back with Brandy, Eggs, and old Rags for our Paper-mills; but Hollands, Laces, and vast Quantities of Cambricks are the valuable Part of their Cargoes. The *Flemish* Trade having chalked out a new Channel to itself, *viz.* by this Port, which is more commodious than any other for the *French* Cambricks, &c. it saves 10 *per Cent.* on the inland Duties and Carriage. We cannot enter into any great Detail, but it will perhaps be worth our while to say something upon the Article of Lace in particular.

The two Provinces of *Flanders* and *Brabant* furnish *England* and all *Europe* with this valuable Commodity. To encourage the Exportation, and in favour of the Convents, it is the only Commodity of the Country that pays no Duty. Nunneries that consist of 500, and sometimes 1000 Persons, partly maintain themselves by this Work; and one cannot go into a House without seeing two or three Wheels spinning this Thread. In *England* five whole Counties, and about half a sixth, are chiefly employ'd in the Manufacture of Lace. As the Necessaries of Life are cheaper abroad, as most of the Convents have some Endowment, and do not intirely depend on their Industry for their Subsistence, and as the Thread is the Product of their Country, it is evident, that the *Flemings* can furnish Lace at much lower Rates than our Makers of  
it

it at home. It were therefore well worth the Attention of our Legislature, both in their publick and private Capacities, to take Measures for discouraging the Wearing and Importation of foreign Lace, in order to make way for our own. It is very certain, that the Threads now made at *Glasgow* and *Dublin* are little or nothing inferior to the *Flemish* in Fineness, and even Whiteness, and that they far surpass it in Strength.

From this short Account of the Trade in † the nine principal Ports of the *Low Countries*, and of the Number of Ships employed in it, the Balance seems very much on the Side of *Great Britain*; especially if it be considered, that all our Vessels go thither deep laden with our Commodities and Manufactures, and return in a manner empty to their own Ports. Their Cargoes consist of Tobacco, Rice, and Bale Goods of all Sorts; the *Dutch* Gentry wearing much of our Cloth, which they find both to be finer, and to wear better than their own: Stuffs, Callimancoes, and all Sorts of our Woollens; Wheat, Hats, Leather, Tin, Lead, and Coals: All Sorts of fine Toys; as Watches, Snuff-boxes, Chains, Buckles, Buttons, Fans, Gloves, &c. The *Dutch* had formerly most of these from *France*, but now from *England*, where they think they are better made; so that our *London* Arti-

† These are *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, and *Dort* in *Holland*; *Middleburg*, *Ter-veer*, and *Flushing* in *Zealand*; *Ostend*, *Nieuport*, and *Dunkirk* in *Flanders*.



zans have outdone the *French* even in their own *Bagatelles*.

The Goods which we take in return are, as we have said, Linen, Cambrick, Lace, Brandy, Tea; to which may be added Spice (the *Dutch* having engrossed the Spice Trade) and human Hair. Were it possible to prevent the Importation of such of these Goods as are contraband, and to oblige the rest to pay the whole Duty laid on them by the Legislature, the Balance of Trade would lie extremely on our Side.

Every Week considerable Quantities of our Gold and Silver are enter'd at the Custom-house for *Holland*, which surprizes many; but that does not proceed from the Balance of Trade being against us, as has generally been believed, but the considerable Sums that the *Dutch* have in our publick Funds, in which they think their Money more secure than any where else; and they will be paid no otherwise than in Specie, a Thing we cannot refuse. Besides which it is to be consider'd, that the Situation and Commerce of *Holland* is such, as renders it more commodious than any other Country for Matters of Exchange to all Parts of the Continent of *Europe*, and even the other Quarters of the World; *London* having the double Disadvantage of being more remote, and situate in an Island.

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### C H A P. III.

#### AMBASSADORS *and other* FOREIGN MINISTERS *to the* States General.

**A**BOUT twenty Ambassadors and other Ministers from Kings, Princes, and States, generally reside at the *Hague*. Those Powers have also their Agents and Consuls at *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*. They all live in hired Houses, except the Ambassador of *Spain*, who resides in that which belongs to his Crown, and that saves him 1 or 2,000 Guilders a Year. The *Prussian* Minister is more magnificently lodged than any of them, in the Palace, which formerly belong'd to the Prince of *Orange*, afterwards King *William* of *Great Britain*. None of the Ministers however have Reason to complain. There are many fine Houses here for their Accommodation; but not quite so convenient as those of *London*, nor so richly furnished as the Hotels of *Paris*.

Rent and the other Expences of House-keeping are almost on a Par with the Price of them in the two Capitals just mentioned.

The Privileges and Immunities of foreign Ministers in this Court differ little from those

they enjoy elsewhere. The general Rule observ'd by the several Courts of *Europe*, that pretend to Equality, is to treat each others Ministers with the same Measure of Respect, as near as possible, in point of Ceremonial, Privileges, &c. The Republick, tho' considered as a Sovereign State, abate something of the lofty Formalities, the other Powers contend for so much; so that one seldom hears of their Minister's having quarrel'd about Precedency at a foreign Court. It is a Part of their Instructions to avoid Disputes of that kind, that they may devote their whole Thoughts and Application to the material Affairs of their Embassies.

One of the most considerable Privileges enjoyed here by foreign Ministers is, in my Opinion, paying no Duty for their Wine. Were they to pay that, it would cut deep in their Expences, and make this considerable Part of House-keeping as dear as at *London*, and equal to the prime Cost of their Liquor, which is not greater here than even at *Paris* or *Madrid*. But there is this Difference; for one Hogshead in those warm Climates, three are drank at the *Hague*, where Topping is so far from being avoided, that it is reckon'd necessary to Health, in giving a lively Motion to the Spirits. We must observe here, that every Kind of Ministers are not allowed this Privilege. The Reason of this is; formerly little Men, of no Principle, or Sense of Honour, were, I know not how, made Agents. These sold  
this



this Indulgence of the Government, helped others to Wine in their Names Tax-free, and some were even so void of Shame, as to sell Liquors publickly themselves. These Abuses were so manifest, that their Principals did not think fit to interpose in their behalf, and suffered the Government to tax them as private Persons. One would however think, that as the Court of *Great Britain*, by appointing Gentlemen of Quality and Character to act for it at the *Hague* and *Rotterdam*, has not had this Imputation, Things should be with them upon the ancient Foot in respect to Taxations.

Lord LEXINGTON, the favourite Minister of King *William*, so well read in Men, negotiated and signed the Treaty of *Ryswick* in 1697. The other *British* Ministers, since the Beginning of this Century, to the Court of the *Hague*, were, during Queen *Anne*'s Reign, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the late Lord *Townshend*. The first every Year on going over to the Army took the *Hague* in his Way, where he assumed his Character of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He seldom stayed longer than a few Days there, his Presence being necessary in the Army. He did not however content himself with only conferring with the Ministers of the State in private, he always demanded a publick Audience; upon which Occasions he no doubt had observed, that what he said had more

Weight

Weight. As himself and Lord *Godolphin* were at the Helm, his Grace was considered as the Depository of the Royal Counsels and Authority; besides which, his Person was very graceful, and he was always for pushing the § War. As so grand a Confederacy had been formed, the *Dutch* were far from being averse to that; at least till they had brought the *French* King back to the *Pyrenean* Treaty. And indeed they had been so tyrannized over by that insolent Monarch for almost forty Years, that it is no wonder they laid hold of so fair an Opportunity for disabling him to hurt them for the future; in consequence of which they were resolved now to act effectually for that purpose.

Lord *Townshend* came frequently over with the Duke, and sometimes alone in a publick Character. He made the same Demands, tho' not in the same Manner, as his Grace, who was a more courtly Person, and he was not so great a Favourite at this Court as the Duke of *Marlborough*.

He was succeeded by the Earl of *Strafford*, and the Bishop of *London*, who were employed to negotiate the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and were

§ The peculiar Characteristicks of the Duke of *Marlborough* were Presence of Mind, and Possession of himself, which Qualities hardly ever forsook him, and he was esteem'd as great in the Cabinet, as he was glorious in the Field.

more

more than once insulted by an incensed People, who feared the Interests of the whole Confederacy, and of their Country in particular, were giving up by Treaty.

On great Revolutions and the Accession of Kings, solemn Embassies are usually sent to foreign Courts, to add Weight and Lustre to such Events.

On the Accession of King *George I.* to the Throne of *Great Britain*, Lord *Cadogan* was sent to the *Hague*, and the Earl of *Stair* to *Paris*.

*Cadogan*, who in the Army was next in Confidence, tho' not in Post, to the Duke of *Marlborough*, was named as a proper Person by the Duke. He had been acquainted with the *Dutch* Generals, and the States Deputies in *Flanders*, and acquitted himself of his Commission with Dignity.

At the same time the Earl of *Stair* appeared with unparalled Magnificence at the Court of *France*. His publick Entry was splendid beyond all Imagination, and had more the Air of a great King's Return to his Capital after a glorious Victory, than of a Minister coming to notify one Prince's Accession to another. The least that can be said of it is, that it looked like a publick Triumph in the Capital of an Enemy. The *Grand Monarque* did not like it. It looked,



as if a Nation, which he had just before in a manner duped, in the Person of their Minister, intentionally eclipsed and insulted him in his Capital, and on his Throne. But he was afraid to renew the War, and our Minister in effect was more feared than loved. *Stair* was bold, sagacious, vigilant, and in the most critical Conjunction a Match for the most subtle Court in *Europe*. At the Expence of his own Fortune he did Honour to *Great Britain*, and very much contributed to establish the present august Family on the Throne.

Since the Death of the Earl of *Sunderland* in 1722. the Right Honourable *Horatio Walpole* has been often at the *Hague*, at first with the Character of Envoy Extraordinary, and afterwards of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. As he is Brother to the Prime Minister, and of the Cabinet himself, he acted with full Powers at this Court.

At the Accession of His present Majesty, the E. of *Chesterfield* was sent thither. That Lord, during five Years Residence as Ambassador, lived at a great Expence, and with a Magnificence becoming the Representative of a great King. The *Dutch* thought they saw a Resemblance in some Things between the Prince and his Minister. He might have had the Honour of a publick Entry, but declined it, which put the Citizens of the *Hague* out

out of Humour with him. But the Sight would not have been so magnificent as either he or they might have desired it. He was solicitous to be recalled, and to be near the Person of his Prince, by whom he was beloved. He at length obtained his Request; but not till he had made it unquestionable, that he was the greatest Genius of all the foreign Ministers of his Time.

Since his recall, the Honourable Mr. *Trevor* has been Minister in Ordinary at the *Hague*, where he is now Envoy Extraordinary. After having made the Tour of *Europe*, that Gentleman was in the Secretary of State's Office, where he had the Opportunity of forming himself for publick Business. He has a quick Discernment and solid Judgement. He is at present very young, but acquits himself in the most arduous Affairs with the Ability and Ease of the most experienced in Negociation. He is very much considered at the *Hague*, and in the Provinces, where, without the Lustre of a publick Character to set it off, personal Merit is respected perhaps more than any where else. He has made a noble Use of his Travels, and is profoundly versed in Arts and Sciences. After the Example of the greatest Ministers, he devotes a leisure Hour to the Muses, by whom he is both honoured and beloved. In a Word, he is generally allowed to be the most accomplish'd Gentleman in a publick Character at this Court, and to do Honour to the great Nation to which he belongs.

*M. Des*

*M. Des Rolles*, who was *British* Resident a great while, is lately dead in a very advanced Age.

*M. Laurenzy* is Agent, or Resident, both for *Great Britain*, and the Electorate of *Hanover*, so that he has much Business upon his Hands; but is equal to it. He is also a Person of many amiable Qualities, and much considered at the *Hague*.

Baron SPORCK is Envoy Extraordinary for the Electorate. From his manner of living, his Appointments should be very considerable.

The highest Character the Electors of the Empire usually give their Ministers at foreign Courts, is that of Envoy Extraordinary. Crown'd Heads, and the Republicks of the United Provinces and *Venice*, to save Expences, generally do the same, unless upon great Occasions.

The other Ministers at this Court are:

The Marquess DE FENELON, Ambassador of *France*. He is Nephew to the late great Archbishop of *Cambray*, for the Honour of whose Memory he is very passionate. He has lately caused two very magnificent Editions of the *TELEMACHUS* to be printed with fine copper Plates, as also of the Prelate's other Works: And I have seen a fine gold Medal of him, of about six Guineas in Value, struck by the Order, and at the Expence of this Minister. On one Side is the Head of that great Man, the Reverse I do not remember. The Marquess is at present



at *Paris*; but the *Abbè de la Ville*, Secretary to the Embassy, takes care of Affairs in his absence.

Count D'UHLEFELD is Envoy Extraordinary from the Emperor. He is at present at *Vienna*. His Return to the *Hague* is uncertain, and it is talked that he is to be sent Ambassador to *Constantinople*.

This Minister was an intire Friend to the *Dutch*, and would fain have cultivated a good Understanding between his Master and the two Maritime Powers; but for that he had no Thanks nor Commission from his own Court. In this Part of his Conduct he resembled Sir *William Temple*, who did all he could to promote mutual Amity, and an Alliance between his Master and the States, tho' he did not find one Word to that purpose in his Instructions.

The Marquess *De St. GILLES*, a Person of great Magnificence, is Ambassador from the most Catholick King.

The Count *De GOLOFSKIN*, who has been employed in many Embassies, is Ambassador Plenipotentiary from the Empress of *Russia* to the States. He has the most numerous Family (consisting of above an hundred Persons) and the best regulated of any Minister at the *Hague*. He has many Children. He has not been employ'd in any important Negociation since his Arrival.

M. *Luiscius*, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of *Prussia*, is a Native of *Zanten* in the Dutchy of *Cleves*. His *Prussian* Majesty generally

rally chuses his Ministers for the *Hague* from this Country, which borders on the United Provinces, the Natives of it being supposed to know the *Low Dutch* Customs and Language better than others. *Luisius* is a Man of Letters, and well read in the Law, which he practised at the *Hague* before he was appointed Minister. In his noble historical and genealogical Dictionary lately published in several Folio's, he is so modest to assume no other Title but that of Lawyer. He affords no small Ease to his Court; for he draws up most of the Memorials and other Papers, which he presents concerning the King's Affairs, and particularly the Succession of *Juliers* and *Berg*, which he perfectly understands, and to which his Master has so good a Right. But it is much to be feared, that neither the King's Right, nor the Minister's Ability will be of any Avail. *Lewis XV.* who does not care that the Dominions of so powerful a Prince should augment on the Frontiers of *France*, has declared it his Opinion, that the Prince of *Sultzbach*, from whom he has nothing to apprehend, has the better Right. For the same Reason, the States General do not seem to vary in their Sentiments from the most Christian King. At first *Great Britain* thought herself no otherwise concerned in that Succession, than to have it amicably settled, and a War thereby prevented, in which she might be obliged to engage, to prevent her formidable Neighbour from taking Advantages, and aggrandizing

dizing himself with new Spoils. For this end we enter'd into a Provisional Treaty with *France* and the United Provinces, to guarantee the eventual Succession of the Countries in dispute to the Prince of *Sultzbach*, on the Demise of the Elector *Palatine*. The Emperor, whose sole Right it was to take Cognizance of this Affair, perceiving he could not effect a Sequestration, and that he should get nothing by it, to spare himself farther Trouble, referr'd the whole Affair to the Court of *France*, with which the Empire had great Reason to be dissatisfied. It is most certain, that were those Countries in the possession of a King of *Prussia*, it would greatly conduce to advance the *Protestant* Interest, and to strengthen the Barrier against *France*. It was perhaps this second maturer Thought, that has induced the two Maritime Powers to endeavour to recede from their first Engagement, and to give a new Turn to this still depending Affair: but *France* will listen to no Variation, and insists upon pinning them down to the Provisional Treaty. The House of *Austria*, which all *Europe*, and the two Maritime Powers in particular, have taken so much pains to set up in opposition to the House of *Bourbon*, is no longer to be depended on. The Wall is removed, and all within exposed, and at the Mercy of the Enemy. It therefore infinitely concerns *Europe*, and especially *Great Britain*, which has nothing to fear

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from the Increase of Territory in the House of *Prussia*, to support the just Pretensions of that House, or of any other, that may in any manner supply the Defect or Inability of the *Austrian* Family.—But to return to our Subject.

M. *Luisius* was recalled in 1739. and was much discomposed on that Occasion. He is succeeded by the Count *de Rasfeld*, who is also a Native of *Cleves*.

M. *De Brosses* is Envoy Extraordinary from *Poland* and *Saxony*; for he acts for both, without having a Multiplicity of Business upon his Hands. He was angry with the States, because they would do nothing to assist his Master in obtaining the Crown of *Poland*; and at present he has no great Reason, to be pleased with the Coldness, with which they receive the many Memorials he delivers them concerning the Pretensions of *Saxony* to *Juliers* and *Berg*. The King of *Poland* is however in the right to support his Pretensions: for such is the Mutability of all human Things, that Occasion may some Time or other rise up to give them Place, and make them effectual. *De Brosses* is not married: He lives in a grand Manner, and gives more Entertainments to the foreign Ministers and others, than any one at the *Hague*: he seems to place the *summum bonum* of Life in these Enjoyments, and Variety; for he is every where. He is a good-natur'd fine Gentleman.

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The Count *De Ricbecourt* is lately arrived here as Minister from the Great Duke of *Tuscany*.

M. GREYS, of *North British* Extraction, is Envoy Extraordinary here from his *Danish* Majesty. He was in inferior Orders, having been bred for the Church; but his Inclinations did not lie that Way. He is reckon'd to have a very good Head, and to write better than he speaks.

M. PREYS is honoured with the same Character on the Part of the Crown of *Sweden*.

The Minister that resides here from the King of *Sardinia*, is the Count *De CHAVANES*.

M. GANSINOT is Envoy Extraordinary from the Electors of *Cologne*, *Bavaria*, and *Palatine*.

The Baron *De PFAN* has the same Character from the Duke of *Wirtemberg*: As *VAN SANDE* has from the Duke of *Mecklemburg*.

M. HULST is Resident from the Prince and Bishop of *Liege*.

The *Hanse* Towns have always a Resident here to take care of their Interests in Matters of Commerce.

Besides these Ambassadors, and other Ministers at the *Hague*, the several trading Powers of *Europe* have particular Ministers, who reside at *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*. Their Business is of two Kinds; to take care of the Commerce and to negotiate the Money-bills from their respective Courts, for the Payment of Ambassadors at the *Hague*, and for secret Services. They act in some

measure under the Ambassadors, and are employ'd by them in particular Affairs. These Gentlemen have not the same Denomination. Those of *Great Britain, Sweden, Denmark, and Poland*, are called Agents; of *Spain and Venice*, Consuls; and of *France*, Commissary of the Marine of *France*. Their Employment however is the same.

The Persons employ'd at present in this Function at *Rotterdam and Amsterdam* by *Great Britain*, are Messrs. *Wolters* and *Regnard*; by *France* Messrs. *Lagier de Tassis* and *Potin*; by *Spain* *Don Rodriguez*; by *Sweden* *M. Balguery*; and by *Poland and Saxony* *M. Bertrey*.

The King of *Great Britain* has also a Commissary at *Utrecht*, who lives in an House belonging to His Majesty, and whose Business it is to provide travelling Equipages in his Journeys to and from *Hanover*. There is also a large House applied to the same Use at *Rhenen*, twenty Miles from *Utrecht*. The unfortunate King of *Bohemia* retired thither with his Family, and resided there a great while, where he built this House, and planted fine Gardens, &c. It fell to the King by his Grandmother the Electress *Sophia*, Daughter of the said *Frederick*, by *Elizabeth*, Daughter of King *James I.* of *Great Britain*.

The Appointments of foreign Ministers at the *Hague*, as at other Courts of *Europe*, are either settled, as are those of the *British* and *Dutch* Ministers;



Ministers; or arbitrary, according to their Interest in their respective Courts, as those of *Spain*.

Those of the highest Order, as Ambassadors, have very considerable Stipends, besides an Allowance for Plate and Equipage. Our Ministers indeed have the Honour to represent a great and powerful Prince, and to do Honour and important Service to their Country. Sir *William Temple*, who was Ambassador at the *Hague* in the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, appeared there with great Magnificence, and preserved the Dignity, which became the Representative of a King of *Great Britain*, and his Rights as Ambassador of that Prince. A Servant of his having been summon'd to appear before the Court of *Holland*, in the Year 1670; the Ambassador sent the following Letter to the Procurator of the Court, which ended the Affair, *viz.*

“ One of my Secretaries having given me a  
 “ Copy of a Paper sign'd by you *F. de Brusis*,  
 “ which was brought to my House, and given  
 “ to one of my Servants, by which Paper you  
 “ summon one *N. Watt*, Valet, or Footman to  
 “ the *English* Ambassador to appear before the  
 “ Court of *Holland*: By the Title you give the  
 “ said *N. Watt*, you make it plain, that you  
 “ believe him to be actually in my House and  
 “ Service; upon which I have thought good to  
 “ tell you, that I look upon you as an insolent  
 “ Fellow, for daring to bring such a Paper in-

“ to my House; and that I do not intend any  
 “ of my Servants shall be look’d upon as Subject  
 “ to the Jurisdiction of any Court of this Coun-  
 “ try, or of any other, beside those of the King  
 “ my Master; and if any of them offends against  
 “ the Laws, Complaint must be made to me,  
 “ that I may either order Justice to be done, or  
 “ deliver the Offender of my own Accord to be  
 “ punished by the Law of the Place, having be-  
 “ fore-hand dismiss’d him from my Service.  
 “ Therefore I do not design to be expos’d to  
 “ such an Insolence as this that you have com-  
 “ mitted against me, in treating me like one of  
 “ your Burghers, as well by the Paper left in  
 “ my House, as by the ringing of the Bell,  
 “ whereof you make mention. What I here say,  
 “ you may let your Masters know from me, by  
 “ whose Order you pretend to have acted. Be-  
 “ sides, for their farther Information, let them  
 “ know, that whilst I reside in this Country, I  
 “ will never suffer the Rights and Privileges so  
 “ long granted to Ambassadors by the Law of  
 “ Nations, and hitherto observed and respected  
 “ by all Princes of Christendom, to be violated,  
 “ or any Way infringed, in this Country in my  
 “ Person, under pretence of any particular So-  
 “ vereignty of a Province, or Privilege of a City,  
 “ in a Commonwealth, where I have the Ho-  
 “ nour to serve a King in Quality of his Am-  
 “ bassador.”

Notwith-

Notwithstanding Sir *William Temple* performed many eminent Services, it seems, that he had hardly Interest enough at Court, to support his Credit, and to be considered in such manner as he might have been in a better Time. In a Letter of his to Sir *John Temple*, speaking of his Inclination to retire from publick Business, he says,

“ Nor shall I easily resolve to offer at any of those  
 “ Advantages you think I might make upon  
 “ such a Retreat of the King’s Favour, or good  
 “ Opinion, by pretending either to Pension, or  
 “ any other Employment. The Honour and  
 “ Pay of such Posts, as I have been in, ought to  
 “ be esteem’d sufficient for the best Services of  
 “ them ; and if I have Credit left with the pre-  
 “ sent Ministers to get what is owing me upon  
 “ my Embassy, I shall think myself enough re-  
 “ warded ; considering how different a Value is  
 “ now like to be put upon my Services in *Hol-*  
 “ *land*, from what there was when they were  
 “ performed. ’Tis very likely at that Time,  
 “ there were few reasonable Things the King  
 “ would have denied me, while the triple Al-  
 “ liance, and our League with *Holland*, had so  
 “ great a Vogue ; and my Friends were not  
 “ wanting in their Advices to me to make Use  
 “ of it. But I have resolved never to ask any  
 “ Thing of him, but by serving him well.”

As our Ministers at foreign Courts are the King’s immediate Servants, they are all paid by



his Majesty. The Money expended for secret Service is brought to the Account of the Nation. This Money judiciously distributed, is of infinite Service. All wise People therefore think, that however sparing States may be in other Articles, in this, with good Management, they can hardly be too lavish. Every body knows the Influence which *Lewis XIV.* had successively in most of the Courts of *Europe*. He kept able Ministers abroad, and did not let them want for Gold. Several of those Provinces and Cities which he annexed to his Dominions, were rather Purchases than Conquests; and tho' during the last general War he was drove out of many of his Possessions, he however retained his Dominions intire in the end.

The King of *Great Britain's* Ministers for the Electorate at foreign Courts make a good Appearance, from whence it is evident that their Remittances are considerable.

The Salaries of the *French* Ministers are not quite so large as ours, but they make to the full as great an Appearance.

The natural Loftiness of the *Spaniard* accompanies him every where, so that he has at least the Air of a great Minister. When he makes any Entertainments they are very magnificent. His Plate; the Product of the *Peruvian* Mines, is rich beyond Imagination; in which Point he outdoes all the other Ministers. His Appointments generally exceed those of most other Courts.

No

No Power in *Europe* allows their Ministers at foreign Courts more liberally than the King of *Portugal*. The Count *De Taraucca* was the most magnificent Minister of his Time. He chose the most publick Hotel of the *Hague*, that at the Corner of the Plain, facing Prince *Maurice's* House, for his Residence. All the World knew when this great Lord sat down to Dinner. The *Hague* resounded with Hautboys, Trumpets, French Horns, &c. from the Stair-case of the Palace, which was at all Hours furnished with whole Troops of Domesticks in splendid Liveries. Nor did he live with less Pomp during his other long Embassy at the Court of *Vienna*, where he died at an advanced Age in 1738. The Count had a great Estate in *Portugal*, but desired not to be recalled. Notwithstanding all his past Splendor, on his Return to Court he must have been confounded with the Tribe he found there, have received some Mortifications, and given place to many. During his Embassies he saw nothing above him but the Emperor only. He could indeed have retired to very magnificent Seats in the Country; but his having acted so long in a publick Sphere, had made him lose all Relish for that Kind of Life. The Fall from so much State and Eminence that Ambassadors suffer on being recalled, is very great, and might mortify a weak Man; besides which, they are not often taken into the Administration at Home,

tho'

tho' if they are Persons of great Ability they might continue to render their Country important Services.

The Inhabitants of the *Hague* regretted the Loss of *Taraucca*: And indeed no Ministers are more welcome to the several Capitals of *Europe*, than those of *Portugal*. For the Ambassadors of that Crown, besides their own Expences, have laid out great Sums at the *Hague*, *London*, *Paris*, and *Rome*, since the Accession of the present King *John V.* on Books, Maps, Prints, Mathematical Instruments, Statues, Pictures, and other Things of Value. The Arts and Sciences are to be seen no where in so much Lustre as at the Court of *Portugal*.

The *Russian* Ministers make an handfom Appearance here. Count *Golofskin* has considerable Appointments. Before *Peter the Great*, who indeed new-founded that Empire, and every Thing in it, upon the best Models he could meet with in his Travels to the several Courts of *Europe*, the *Russian* Ministers did no Honour to their Crown. Now Things are wonderfully changed: *Sic orbis vertitur tanquam mola*. The Manners, Order, and Decorum of Count *Golofskin* and his Family might be a Model to other Ministers. Prince *Kurakin*, who long resided at this Court as Ambassador Extraordinary, was a modest, sedate, well-behaved Man. The Emperor *Peter* had a  
great



great Value for him. He appeared here when *Russia* had attained to the Zenith of Glory. His Prince had settled the State, triumph'd over all his Enemies, and assumed the Title of Emperor, a Title which all *Europe* owned no less due to his Virtues than to his Power and Greatness. The Memorial deliver'd to the State by this Minister, to desire them to acknowledge his Master Emperor of all *Russia*, was delicately worded, and with great Modesty, tho' there never was greater room for expatiating and Panegyrick. It was generally believed to be drawn up by *Kurakin*, tho' others seem to ascribe it more justly to *Peter* himself. One of *Kurakin's* Secretaries was a *Frenchman*, but all were positive that it was not done by him. The States far from hesitating about the Title, were glad they were amongst the first that were applied to, and that they had an Opportunity of obliging so great a Prince, not only in complying themselves, but in setting the Example to the other States of *Europe* to do the same. They thought for this trifling Favour to obtain some solid Advantage to their Commerce. But the Minister did not think the Deputation that came to his House from the States, solemn enough. It consisted only of three Members at nine in the Morning, who, after having made a very short dry Speech, returned to the States that were sitting. The Manner of granting Favours often destroys the Merit of them,

them, and makes them seem even a different kind of Injuries. *Kurakin* was however in an Error on this Occasion. The States followed their usual Forms, and he had no Reason to doubt their Respect and Zeal. This Minister at last lost so excessively in the *Dutch* Bubbles, that he was obliged to retrench his Equipage and Table, and to live almost fordidly: The *Russian* Youth in consequence, who were in *Holland* for the sake of Education at the Emperor's Expence, were reduced to great Straits, and ready to starve. They could have no Money from the Minister, to whose Care they were committed. He found means to extricate himself at last, and was sent to *Paris* with the same Character he had at the *Hague*. He was much honoured, and died there.

Her present Czarish Majesty gives large Salaries to her own Ministers, and makes very noble Presents to those of foreign Princes on leaving her Court. In 1735. she gave Count *Jawiska*, the King of *Poland's* Minister, 6000 \* Rubles on his returning to *Warsaw*; but her usual Present is her Picture set with Diamonds to the Value of several thousand Rubles. To the Ministers of *Persia*, *China*, the *Great Mogul*, and other Eastern Monarchs, to whom Gold and

\* A Ruble is a Mark Sterling.

precious Stones are no Rarities, she gives rich Furs and Ermine of extraordinary Beauty.

The Ministers live and pass their Time much in this Manner, pretty early in the Morning, according to their Affairs, they see one another at their Houses; for after nine or ten o'Clock they are not to be found at home. At twelve they meet at the Baron *Pfan's* on the *Voorhout*, where they converse on indifferent Matters, as in a Coffee-house. At three they either go home, or where they are invited, to Dinner. About six they go to the Assemblies, of which there is always at least one every Evening at one House or another. There they play, or else go to the Theatre. The Places where they take the Air in their Coaches are the *Voorhout*, or the Walk to *Scheveling*. On Post Nights it is not to be expected that Ministers are to be seen.

They frequent no Coffee-houses. *Roselli's*, which is the politest, is only resorted to by the *Beaux* and *Petits Maitres*, an insignificant Species of whom the Ministers take no Notice.

But the reigning Diversion of this Court, as indeed of most others, is Gaming. Those however who do not play, are not thought so unfashionable and ill-bred, and consequently are not so much out of countenance here, as at *Paris* or *London*. The serene Delights of the *Hague* make



make the Amusement of Play superfluous and unnecessary.

Those who play here, play deep, to the great Loss both of their Money and Time. An Honourable Person during his Embassy lost excessively. All the *Hague* combined against him, and every body saw it as well as himself, tho' he seemed to overlook it. In other Respects he was far the greatest Genius and Head-piece of them all.

There was an unexpected Rencounter between the late King of *Prussia* and his Minister at the *Hague*. The King, tho' to the last Degree magnificent, and who usually travell'd like a King, would sometimes be *incog.* and enter a Town or an House like a private Person. He made one of these Excursions from *Cleves* to the *Hague*, which he enter'd at Night, and went directly to his Minister's House. The Door was open, and no Profusion of Lights in the Entry. Being not tall, he went forward unobserved into a Room before him, where he found his Minister and a large Company at Cards. They were surrounded with Domesticks, and other Lookers on, by the means of whom his Majesty took his Station unobserved behind his Minister's Chair. There he stood a considerable Length of Time. At last his Minister being about to play a wrong Card, the King, who understood play better than he liked it, tapp'd him on the Shoulder, and

and advised him take another Card. The Gamester, who did not expect such a Visit, nor desire such a Counsellor at that Time, was not a little confounded. The King only said to him, *Very well, Sir: is this your Manner of minding my Affairs?* He accompanied those Words indeed with a Smile; but the Smile was perhaps intended for the Company, and the Words for the Minister. *Frederick III.* was an awful Prince, with whom there was no Jestings, any more than with his Son the late King.

People observe Forms here more than they do at the Court of *Great-Britain*. They know nothing of a Morning Undress. Were a Person of Quality to appear in the Mall at the *Hague* equipped like his Footman, every Body would believe him out of his Senses.

The Equipages of the Ministers are not very superb. They drive at the *Hague*, as at *London*, with a Pair of Horses, and two or three Footmen behind the Coach. Nor do they use those great Machines, State-coaches, which two Horses can hardly draw along. Were a Minister to introduce the daily Use of them (for in publick Entries the Ambassador always rides in one) it would not be long perhaps before they were prohibited by an Edict of the State. At *Amsterdam* only privileged Persons are allowed the use of Coaches, for fear of shaking the Houses; so very spongy and unstable is the Ground upon  
which

which that City stands. The Ground indeed of the *Hague* is something firmer.

Ambassadors generally have no more than six Footmen, besides the Domesticks of a superior Class, and the *Ministres de la Bouche*, as the *French* call them.

The Place where this Part of his Excellency's Splendor is displayed at large (that is, his Footmen) is at Table, employed in serving about rich Wines. But this is not the only Part of the House where they are seen: There is another, where one is sure to meet with them all, whether one cares for the Sight or no: This is called the Entry. I know the Domesticks of some Hotels have been forbade to appear here, and it were to be wish'd the Prohibition were general. It is still a greater Hardship to find a Troop of these Fellows laying wait for a Man at the Door, when he comes out from their Master, with whom perhaps he has had no Reason to be very well satisfied.

It is usual for this, as well as other Courts, to make a Present to a foreign Minister on his being recalled.

The States give a gold Chain and Medal, value 1300 Florins, or 130 l. Sterling; to Ambassadors a Present of the like Nature worth 6000 Guilders, or 600 l. and another to their Secretaries of 60 l. Value. The King of *Great-Britain* gives considerable Presents, it was to the amount of  
700 l.



700 l. which was presented to Prince *Cantimir*, the *Russian* Ambassador, on his removing from *London* to *Paris*. This is given in Token of the Royal Favour, and that the Person of the Ambassador was agreeable to the Court he is going to leave. It is also intended to bespeak his good Word at his own Court, to which it defrays the Charges of his Journey. The *French* King seldom gives Money, but usually his Picture set with Jewels, or some such valuable Mark of his Esteem. We have mentioned the Munificence of the Crown of *Russia* upon this Occasion above.

Publick Entries are now much out of fashion. They are chiefly kept up by the Republick of *Venice*, and the Knights of *Malta*. The Ambassadors of those two States to the Court of *Rome* never fail to make publick Entries; and that is all their Excellencies do, for they have no manner of Business to negotiate there. After they have furnish'd out the S H E W, they return home some 18 or 20,000 Sequins lighter than they set out. The *Romans*, and indeed the *Italians* in general, are never weary of these Sights. A King's Accession, some grand Alliance, Treaties of Marriage, &c. are now the chief Occasions on which his Ambassadors are ordered to make publick Entries. We will conclude this Article upon publick Ministers, with saying something in particular upon those of the *States General*.

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The Thriftiness of this wise Republick in respect to the Expence of publick Money, appears in every Thing. No Officer or Minister she has can make a Fortune, or indeed a Figure, at the Charge of the State. The Ministers at home serve in a manner *gratis*; and those at foreign Courts have just enough, if they have quite that, allowed them. Tho' her extensive Commerce obliges her to have Ministers at as many Places as *Great Britain*, yet she maintains them at a less Expence by at least one third; and at present she has only three in the Character of Ambassadors.

The ordinary Salary of these Ministers of the first Class is 20,000 Guilders, which is not quite 2000 l. of our Money. M. VANDERMEER has been on the begging hand with the Government to augment that Sum, but without Success, till very lately. He is Ambassador at the Court of *Madrid*. As long as the King of *Spain's* Regulation against Luxury in Dress, Equipage, &c. remained in force, it was no small Relief to the foreign Ministers that resided there, who however found living very expensive. But on the Suspension of that Regulation in 1738, they all petitioned their respective Courts for an Augmentation of Appointments, the Court of *Madrid* being become so splendid, that there was no appearing for them with suitable Decency on their former Salaries. *Great Britain* and *France* immediately augmented the Allowance of their Ministers.

Ministers. The first advanced that of her Minister Plenipotentiary, *Benjamin Keene* Esq; to above 6000 l. and the latter that of the Count *de la Mark* to 120,000 Livres per Annum: Whereas his Predecessor the Count *de Vaugrenant's* Appointments were only 80,000. The States saw themselves now under the Necessity of making some Addition to the Appointments of *M. Vandermeer*.

The Count *De WELDEREN* and *M. SILVIUS*, who were appointed Ambassadors to *England* to congratulate their *Britannick* Majesties on their Accession to the Throne, were allowed upon that great Occasion 30,000 Gilders each; but they had no sooner made the Compliments of the States, than they were recalled, and a Minister with the Character of Envoy sent to succeed them. The States, to give a Lustre to the Embassy, and make the Compliment more compleat, ordered the Ambassadors to make a publick Entry; but even upon that Occasion for displaying Magnificence, the frugal Genius of the Nation those Ministers represented, was discernible.

The States are very industrious to oblige the foreign Ministers who reside with them. They make no great Use of a Master of the Ceremonies, or Introductor of Ambassadors, as he is also called: They in a great measure do the Honours of the State themselves. Thus in *August* 1739, the Count *de Raasfeldt*, tho' only Envoy from the King of *Prussia*, after having had a Confe-



ence with their High Mightinesses in the Chamber of the *Truce*, was reconducted to the Foot of the Stairs by *M. de Ferseman* and the *Baron de Milan Visconti*, Deputies from the Provinces of *Zealand* and *Utrecht*.

Good Provision is however made by this wise State for such of her Ministers as have impaired their Fortunes, or grown old in her Service. They have amongst them the ancient Demesnes of *Holland*, the Revenues of which they collect themselves, without accounting to the States. Upon Emergencies of the Government however, they call upon them for a Subsidy of 2 or 300,000 Crowns, or more, according as the Chamber is supposed to be grown rich, and to have in their Hands more than is necessary to the general Design of its Institution. No Nation perhaps has provided so profitable and honourable a Retirement for its Ministers after their Services, which they may long enjoy after being recalled, and declared *Emeriti*. And indeed the unreasonable Parsimony with which they are treated whilst in Office, is no less to be censured, than the noble Provision afterwards made for them, is great and praise-worthy.

This and many other Instances of the Thriftiness of the Republick have induced People to think, that she carried the Virtue of Frugality too far, and have sunk her with some in the Eyes of the World.

It is even notorious, that the same Spirit has influenced the whole Conduct of the Republick, and made her sometimes neglect extending her Frontiers on the Side of the Enemy. In the Year 1658, *Munster* was lost, *Amsterdam* not consenting to keep that important City on account of the Expence. But they soon found to their Grief, that the Spirit of saving cost them many Millions, when the martial Bishop *Van Galen* had almost ruined them on the Side of *Groningen* and *Friesland*. Had that Town been in the Hands of the States, it would not only have effectually covered them then, but been a very proper Place in all Times for raising Troops in *Westphalia*; a Circumstance of great Importance to *Holland*, where Levies are made with no small Difficulty. Another Error, says a great Man, into which the Conduct of *Amsterdam* drew the States, was the Refusal of the Offer made them in 1663, by *Estrades* the French Ambassador, of a Partition of the *Spanish* (now *Austrian*) *Netherlands*. By this Division *Ostend*, and a Line from thence to *Maestricht*, within which *Bruges*, *Ghent*, and *Antwerp* were included, were to be in the possession of the States, the French desiring only *St. Omer*, *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, and *Luxemburg*; and the Country between those Lines was to form a free Commonwealth. This was much debated throughout *Holland*. It was evident, that this new Republick, taken out of the Hands of the *Spaniards*, must necessarily have fallen into

the Dependence of the States, and have been much more considerable under a better Regulation. But this could not be without putting the States to some considerable Expence. The Proposal was therefore rejected principally by the Opposition of *Amsterdam*; by which unseasonable Parsimony they were soon after engaged in a War of so vast an Expence, that the yearly amount of their whole Estates did not answer that of the Taxes they were reduced to lay upon the People.

It was perhaps owing to the same Spirit of Frugality, that the Proposal of the famous General and Engineer *Coborn*, which was so well relished by King *William III.* was not executed. That great Engineer proposed to cut a broad and deep Trench or Canal from *Sluys* in *Flanders* quite across the Country to *Venlo* in *Guelderland*, within which was to be included *Dutch Flanders* and *Brabant*, with the strong Towns of *Sluys*, *Hulst*, *Sas van Ghent*, *Lillo*, *Breda*, and *Boisleduc*. The Trench was to be fortify'd with Lines and Forts at proper Distances, and the Republick was to have no Territory beyond it. And indeed some have thought, that this would have been a much nobler and more secure Fortification for her, than her four or five Barrier Towns, which besides what the Emperor pays them, cost them so much, and are the Source of perpetual Wrangling between them and his Imperial Majesty;

not



not to add that they may all be taken in a Campaign or two, when there is not a grand Army in the Field to defend them.

In the Letters of some Minister (I cannot recollect whose) I have read, that *Christina* Queen of *Sweden* having told the States Ambassador at her Court, that she was extremely taken with the Beauty of the *Dutch* Yachts, that Minister immediately gave her reason to expect a Present of one of the finest of them, and wrote to the *Hague* upon that Head. But no Yacht was sent; so that the Queen was balked in her Expectation, and Things in effect went very ill both with the *Dutch* Minister, and the Affairs of his Embassy.

It must however be owned, that the Republick has sometimes assumed a different Air, and known how to be magnificent enough upon Occasion. I shall produce two or three Instances of this kind here (it being unreasonable to regard only the least shining Part of a Medal without considering its Reverse,) with which I shall conclude this Chapter.

When *Charles II.* King of *Great Britain*, and his Royal Brothers had passed many Years in a tedious Exile, and the Nation was universally inclined to their return, they thought it adviseable to draw near the Coast of the Sea. The States General on that Occasion invited them with their numerous Courts first to *Breda*, and afterwards

to the *Hague*, to which last Place they were carried in the States Yachts and other Vessels in great Pomp and Ceremony. \* “ Their Entrance in-  
 “ to the *Hague*, and Reception there, and the  
 “ conducting his Majesty to the House (Prince  
 “ *Maurice*’s) provided for his Entertainment,  
 “ were very magnificent. The Treatment of  
 “ his Majesty, and all who had any Relation to  
 “ his Service, at the States Charge during his  
 “ abode there, which continued many Days,  
 “ was incredibly noble and splendid.” To enter  
 into a particular Detail would be improper in  
 this Place. The Apartments of the Palace were  
 furnished at a vast Expence. Seven *Dutch* Lords  
 were appointed to attend constantly when the  
 King sat down to Table; at the Head of which  
 the King sat under a rich Canopy, having on  
 his left Hand the Princess Royal of *Orange* his  
 Sister, and on his right the Queen of *Bohemia*  
 his Aunt. At the End of the Table on the same  
 Side were his two Brothers the Dukes of *York*  
 and *Gloucester*, and at the other End by the  
 Princess Royal, the young Prince of *Orange* her  
 Son, afterwards King *William* III. of *Great*  
*Britain*, who was then only ten Years old. The  
 Services were incredibly magnificent, and the  
 Dishes of massive Gold. Five Tables besides  
 this were provided for the Lords, and one for  
 the Ladies of the Court. “The Deserts and  
 Sweetmeats at all those Tables were scrambled

\* *Clarend. Hist.* Vol. III. p. 599.

for, and exposed to the Discretion of the numerous Spectators: A Profusion unknown in the Courts of the greatest Kings. Batteries of Cannon were mounted on the *Vyverberg* fronting the Palace, which with the Trumpets, &c. made the whole *Hague* resound alternately with Thunder and Melody. The Expence of the whole was not particularly known, because the Government ordered all Things of that Nature to be kept secret. On the Day of the King's Entry only 30,000 l. Sterling were allotted by Way of a Foundation for Charges, and two or three Days after, 60,000 l. more were ordered for one grand Entertainment. Not content with this, the States made very noble & Presents to the King, the Dukes of *York* and *Gloucester*, and the Lords of the Court at their Departure.

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§ The Presents made his Majesty were, 1. The beautiful Brigantine, which the King for many Years after used upon the River *Thames*. The occasion of giving it him was the King's expressing his Pleasure on seeing the fine little Fleet of Yachts and Frigates that carried him from *Breda* to the *Hague*; and saying, *That he would have a Vessel made after the same Model, to serve him on the Thames at his Arrival in London.* Upon which one of the Deputies of *Amsterdam*, who was near his Majesty, told him, that there was such a one just built in their Town of the same Bigness, and at least as commodious every way, which he took the Liberty to offer his Majesty as a Present. The King neither accepted, nor refused it; so that Orders were privately sent to *Amsterdam*, to finish it in the grandest Taste possible, that it might be ready to be presented to his Majesty at *Scheveling* at his Departure for *England*. The Body of the Vessel was adorned with the finest Tapestry, the Royal Flag was hoisted on its Masts, and its Yards were laden with Crowns and Festoons of Lawrels and Flowers. On one of the Streamers was this Device, *Quo fas & fata*; Alluding to the usual Motto



The noble Historian says, " That the universal Joy was so visible and real, that it could only be exceeded by that of his own Subjects." And the King often declared publicly, that he had never received the like Favours any where; and told the States, that he would retain the warmest Sense of them as long as he lived; nay more, and that their Republick was as dear to him as his own Kingdoms. But

Motto of the Kings of England, *Dieu & mon droit*; and to the King's embarking for the Land, whither his Right, and the Providence of God called him. The King, with all the Royal Family, enter'd the Yacht in Sight of his own Fleet that was come to bring him over, and seated himself for some time under a magnificent Canopy, the Deputies of the States still attending him. Batteries were raised on the Downs of *Scheweling*, which fired continually; and the Concourse of People on the Sands, in Coaches, and on Foot, were innumerable. At last on the Admiral's giving the Signal to sail, the King tenderly embraced the young Prince of *Orange*, and gave him his Blessing; and then took Leave of the Queen Dowager of *Bohemia*. But when he came to do the same of the Princess Royal, there was no parting them; till the Admiral gave a second Signal for sailing, and the whole Fleet were under Sail. 2. The other Present made the King was the rich Bed and Furniture, which the last deceased Prince of *Orange* had ordered to be made for the lying-in of the Princess Royal, and which she never used, on account of her Husband's Death eight Days before the young Prince's Birth. This Bed was the finest, and most magnificent, that ever was made at *Paris*; to which, and the Furniture, the States added a Set of Hangings of inestimable Value. They were of Tapestry embossed with Embroidery of Gold and Silver; and also several fine Paintings of the great Masters, ancient and modern, with many other Rarities of very great Value.

Finding that Money would be most acceptable to the two Dukes, the States made each of them a Present of a Bill for 75,000 Gilders. They received the Bills with great Professions of Gratitude, and the Duke of *York* said he willingly charged himself with that Obligation to the Lords the States. The *English* Lords had Chains of Gold: that of the Lord *Crofts* cost 400 l. Sterling.

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these extraordinary Kindnesses and Favours, before the Taste of them (to use that Expression) could be well out of his Mouth, were rewarded by him with an unjust and cruel War; and his whole Reign was one continued Plot, in Conjunction with his good Ally of *France*, to ruin and extirpate this Commonwealth: So that the *Dutch*, with the Change of a Word or two, might well apply the Distich of the Poet to themselves :

*Te magis optabat redituum, Carole, nemo,  
Et nemo sentit te rediisse minus.*

Another Instance of the Magnificence of this State I shall take from an Event of a very different Nature to the foregoing. This is *the famous Synod of Dort*, held in the Years 1618, and 1619, with extraordinary Splendor and Expence. King *James I. of Great Britain*, and the other Protestant Powers requested, that it might be rather an Oecumenical than National Council or Synod, at which Members from all the Reformed Churches of Christendom might assist, and thereby testify their Agreement and Unity in the Christian Faith in the most authentick and solemn Manner. The States, tho' they foresaw the great Charges with which the holding such an *universal Council* would be attended, readily complied. Accordingly on the Invitation of their High Mightinesses, two or three of the most learned  
and

and moderate Divines were sent by their respective Churches to *Holland*. Those deputed by the Church of *England*, were Dr. *Laud*, then Bishop of *St. Asaph*, and afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*, with the Doctors *Hall* and *Davenant*, afterwards Bishops of *Exeter* and *Salisbury*. The whole Number amounted to 104. The Lords Deputies from their High Mightinesses were present all the Time they sat, and opened the Council with a short Speech, wherein they thanked the King of *Great Britain* and the other Protestant Princes for sending their Deputies, &c. The whole passed with great Order and Solemnity, and what is almost wonderful, with perfect Harmony and Unanimity. The *Arminians* and some other Sects were condemned *nemine contradicente*.

The Deputies of the States stayed behind, after the Synod broke up, to defray all Expences. Besides Fire, Candles, &c. each of the Deputies from *England* and *Scotland*, and probably from the other foreign Churches, had 20 Guilders, or near 2 l. Sterling a Day for their Table. The *Arminians*, who were the Losers upon this Occasion, ridiculed every Thing the Government did. They gave out that the Bishop of *St. Asaph* (who with his Collegues were allowed Precedency in the Council) had 8 l. to himself. The Ministers of the United Provinces had each 8 s. a Day; as had the Ministers to the Number of fifteen, who were cited to the Synod. The Moderator, or  
Chairman,



Chairman, had 1 l. 6 s. allowed him, and the Messengers, Clerks, &c. 8 s. each. The Secretaries, Commissaries, &c. had such large Appointments, that one of them received 300 l. on account of his daily Pension.

A gold Medal worth 150 Guilders, or 15 l. and a Chain of 5 l. was also given to all the Deputies of the foreign Churches on the Day of their Departure. Upon it was represented the Synod of *Dort* with these Words, *Religione asserta*; and on the Reverse *Mount Sion*, and the Temple attacked by the four Winds, and illuminated by the Rays that issue from the Word *והרה* or *Jehovah*, with this Legend, *Erunt sicut Mons Sion*. Each of the *Dutch* Ministers had a Silver Medal. The travelling Charges of the foreign Deputies going and coming were also paid, but the exact Sum given on that Account is not said. In all Probability it was considerable, and much more than the Expences they were really at. The States, according to their constant Custom on the like Occasions, kept all very secret; but the Particulars above specified were of a Nature not to be concealed. *Henry Hollinger*, an *Arminian* Minister, in a little Book published by him, assures us, that one of the States Deputies told a Friend of his in confidence, that the Charges of this famous *Council*, or, as the Protestants affect rather to call it, *Synod*, amounted to ten Ton of Gold, or a Million of Guilders, that is, about 100,000 l. of our Money; a Sum equivalent to  
200,000 l.

260,000 l. in these Days. It is to be doubted, whether the Expences of the *General Councils* under the *Constantines*, *Theodosius's*, and other Christian Emperors, amounted to so great a Sum.

The Munificence of the Republick to several of her good Servants is well known; one Instance of which is the Action of *Chatbam*, which makes a great Figure in the Annals of the Republick. In 1667, *De Ruyter* put to Sea, and anchoring at the Mouth of the *Thames*, sent seventeen of his lightest Ships, and four Fireships into the River, where they took *Sheerness* Fort, demolish'd the Fortifications, and burnt, or carried off the Naval Stores laid up there. After that the Admiral came to *Chatbam*, where he burnt several Men of War, &c. and from thence he advanced as far as *Gravesend*, burnt six of our largest Ships, amongst which were the Admiral and Vice-admiral of the White, and took the *Royal Charles*, &c. All which hastened the Peace of *Breda*, to the Advantage of the Republick, which presented her Admirals *De Ruyter*, *De Witt*, and *Ghent*, each with a gold Cup, on which was engraven the Action of *Chatbam*, to perpetuate the Remembrance of it in their Families. Each of those three Commanders has a magnificent Tomb erected to his Memory at the Expence of the Publick. Medals were also struck on that Occasion, on which

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*De Ruyter* is called *Immensi Tremor Oceani*, and *Archibutalassus, Dux, et. Eques*. See *Van Loon*, P. iii. p. 168. We have mentioned above the magnificent *Mausoleums* and other posthumous Honours conferred by the Republic <sup>on</sup> several other of her deceased Admirals; nay even on those who were, generally speaking, § unfortunate.

§ We cannot but observe on this Occasion the Partiality of this Maritime Power to one Sort of Commanders in Prejudice to the other. An *Atblone*, a *Coborn*, an *Auverquerque* have had no publick Honours paid to their Memories; as if the Glory and Interest of the State were not as much affected by the Land, as the Sea Service. And indeed one cannot but be surprized, the Republick should not judge that victorious Generals by Land deserved at least as much as Commanders defeated at Sea.

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## H A P. IV.

*Of the MEN of LETTERS and  
BEAUX ESPRITS of the Hague.*

T H E R E are always a considerable Number of learned Men and *Beaux Esprits* that reside at the *Hague*. As the Presses of *Holland* in a great measure furnish all *Europe* with Books, Maps, &c. some Authors come themselves, and others send their Manuscripts hither, as to the best Markets. Such Writers as are above taking Money, and have Estates of their own, chuse to reside here, on account of the Beauty of the Country, the Liberty of the Press, and the Conveniences for Study, which are greater here than any where else. For as the Province of *Holland* alone is in a manner the Rendezvous of all Nations and Languages, it affords easy and immediate Opportunities for making great Advances in Letters and Knowledge. Besides which, the Booksellers Shops are always open, and they correspond with most Parts; so that one may always be informed of what is doing, or intended, in the remotest Corners of the learned World. And as the *Hague* is the Center of Politicks and Intelligence of all kinds, there is always something

thing besides meer Study, to season and enliven the Conversation of the Ingenious.

The Men of Letters and others, who made the greatest Figure in my Time, were,

Mr. SANSON, who has wrote the first Part of King *William's* Life so well. It is pity he could not find Time to finish it. He understood the Affairs of *Europe*, and had a good Talent at drawing up Memorials; in effect of which he was of use to several foreign Ministers, and particularly to some of our own. Mr. *Horace Walpole* carried him with him from the *Hague* to the Congress of *Soissons* in 1728. By the Interest of that Minister he has now a considerable Place in *England*, where he lives.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM was a Person of singular Merit. He was a great Civilian, and labour'd five and twenty Years on the *Roman Law*, but with so many Interruptions, that his Manuscripts were so imperfect at his Death, they were not fit to be published. This disappointed many, who had long expected that Work. His *Horace*, which he printed as a Critick on Dr. *Bentley's*, shewed him to be an able Grammarian. A Word, which escaped the *Cambridge* Professor on being asked why he did not answer that Critick, piqued Mr. *Cunningham* sensibly: it was, *That he would not immortalize the Author*: ORE ROTUNDO. Some however think, that those critical Animadversions have detracted something from the Doctor's own Immortality;

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who

who seem'd to be under some such Apprehensions: For tho' he would not answer his Antagonist's Work when publish'd, he left no Stone unturn'd to prevent its Publication, as Mr. *Cunningham* told me at large. I carried two young Gentlemen of *Cambridge* to see him, 'who told him how well his *Horace* had been received in *England*, and that the Generality of the Learned there had read him with no small Pleasure.

Mr. *Cunningham* was much visited by our Ministers at the *Hague*. He was a fine Gentleman, and lived in an handsom Manner on a large Pension settled on him by the Duke of *Argyle*. He accompanied that great Man in his Travels. He was a great Admirer of the *Hague*; but left it in his last Illness, and died in *North Britain*, where he was born.

Mr. *SALLENGRE* was a young, but able Writer. He published three Volumes of *Roman Antiquities* by way of Supplement to *GRÆVIUS*. His Place in the Treasury of the States General gave him the Opportunity of employing some of his leisure Hours in turning over the Registers of the State, with the View of writing the History of his Country. He intended to have filled up the Void in that History from the Truce with *Spain* in 1609. where *Grotius* ends; to the Treaty of *Munster*, where *Wicquefort* and *Basnage* begin. To make a Trial of his own Ability and the Taste of the Publick, he thought proper to detach one Year, and chose



chose that of 1621. in which the War was renewed. The only Defect of that Work is its not being continued. Death took the Author off in the 30th Year of his Age.

LAMBERTI was a judicious and careful Collector of publick Treaties of Peace and War, of Commerce, &c. of which he published many Volumes in Quarto. The foreign Ministers took pleasure in communicating such Pieces of that kind to him, as might be published. *Du Mont* was also very eminent in the same Way.

Mr. ROUSSET has succeeded *Lamberti* in this Application. He is no less able, but not so careful as his Predecessor. He is a Man of Pleasure, and Haste seems to be inscribed on every thing he does. He deserves to be blamed, because he can do better. He lives at *Amsterdam*.

MARTINIERE has published a Geographical Dictionary in nine Volumes in Folio, wherein there are some new Articles. He could have made it a noble Work, if he could have employed more Time in it. It is a pity to see ingenious Men under the Necessity of hurrying over Things, which they are so capable of completing, were they more at their Ease. *Martinier* has done some other Pieces. He lives generally in the Country.

BEAUMARCHAIS has composed Variety of Miscellaneous Tracts, and is an entertaining and instructive Writer. He resides now at *Francfort*.

Of all the Writers upon the United Provinces, the late M. JANISSONS deserves the first Place. He was a judicious, curious, and indefatigable Man. He visited every Place he describes, and resided some Time in them, whilst he consulted the Archives, Magistrates, and most knowing Persons with extraordinary Success. His Example may serve as a Model for all to follow, who treat of this, or indeed of any other Country. The two Volumes which he published, was an expensive Work to him; but he was resolved to satisfy himself as well as the Publick, which was much the harder Task of the two. He died of an Apoplexy; so that he did not live to receive the Applause and Acknowledgments of a State, on which he had wrote so well. The two printed Volumes contain the present State of little more than Part of the Frontiers, viz. the *Dutch Conquests in Flanders and Brabant*. He designed a Volume on each of the seven Provinces, and had began with that of *Guelderland*, but made no Progress in it. Prince *William of Hesse Cassel* had a singular Regard for Mr. *Janissons*, and honoured him with the Title of his Agent, with a yearly Appointment of 1500 Florins, or 150*l*. I believe that generous Prince continues the Pension to his Widow. It was also thro' his Highness's Interest, that Matters were made up between him and the Government, to which he had rendered himself obnoxious, by being too busy with their Affairs. *Janissons* was a Man of Ability.

Ability. Had he lived, he was to have had the Education of the Prince's Son, which would have paved him a Way to the first Offices in the Landgraviate of *Hesse Cassel*, and perhaps in the Kingdom of *Sweden*. The celebrated Mr. *De Crouzat* had that Charge confided to him; but the natural Inconstancy of that Philosopher would not suffer him to stay long in one Place, nor to confine himself to one Thing, tho' very advantageous. His most Serene Pupil is married to the Princess *Mary*, fourth Daughter of King *George II.* He is a Prince of fine Accomplishments, tho' *De Crouzat* contributed very little to them.

The Marquess *De St. ARGENT* is a lively and sensible Writer, and is reckoned the first Wit of the *Hague*. His *Jewish* Letters, and other Pieces are much read. There are several bold Strokes in those Letters, which had almost drawn a Prohibition upon them. Some Search was made after the Author; at least so it was given out, perhaps to augment the Sale of the Book. This Marquess is a Native of *France*, and lives at present in *Maestricht*, a Town in the Dependence of the States.

The *French* Church at the *Hague* has at all Times produced eminent Men. The Ministers, who in effect of their good Salaries live pretty much at their Ease, have the Use of Libraries, and Intercourse with the learned of other Nations, who do not fail to take this Place in their



Way, if not reside here some time, in the Course of their Travels, or Affairs.

Mr. BASNAGE was a great Man. The Duke of *Orleans*, Regent of *France*, had so high an Opinion of his Parts and Probity, that he ordered the *Abbe Du Bois* (afterwards Cardinal and Prime Minister) during his Embassy at the *Hague*, to apply himself to the Protestant Minister, and to be directed by his Advice. He was employ'd also in managing a secret Negotiation with the Marshal *D'Uxelles*, Plenipotentiary of *France* at the Congress of *Utrecht*. Cardinal *Bouillon*, Dean of the Sacred College, who was then in *Holland*, contracted a strict Intimacy with him. It is certain, Mr. *Basnage* perfectly understood the Constitution and Affairs of the Republick. The Regent, as a Reward for his Services, ordered the Estate Mr. *Basnage* had abandoned in *France*, to be restored to him. He maintained a Correspondence by Letters with several Princes, great Lords, and Ministers of State, both Catholick and Protestant, in *England*, *Italy*, *Germany*, and *France*, and was esteemed no less for his Candor and Probity, than his Learning and Knowledge in State Affairs. He was an excellent Preacher, as well as a very learned Man: two Things which seldom unite in the same Person. He confuted the Errors of the Church of *Rome* with Zeal and Spirit, and had the Honour of having very illustrious Adversaries. He was an universal Scholar; but excelled principally in the

*Jewish*

*Jewish* Antiquities, and Ecclesiastical History. His History of the *Jews* was intended as a Continuation of *Josephus* down to the present Time: but it abounds so much with Digressions and profound Enquiries, that it is only fit to be read by the Learned. It was translated into *English* in 1708. but the Author made large Additions to his Work since. As *Holland* abounds with *Jews*, amongst whom are very eminent Rabbins, *Basnage* consulted both the Living and Dead in compiling his History. He uses that People better than the Generality of Christian Writers, and they themselves are satisfied with him. Only they make Allowances for Difference of Religion, and consider it is a *Nazarene* that speaks. *Reland*, a learned Professor of *Utrecht*, treated them, and the *Mahometans* too, with the like Moderation, and obviated many Imputations, which had no better Foundation than the Zeal or Ignorance of their Enemies. Another considerable Work of *Basnage* is the History of the Religion of the Reformed Churches, which he traces back to the first Centuries of Christianity, in answer to the famous Bishop of *Meaux's* *Variations* of those Churches. The Protestant Divine refutes his learned Antagonist with great Force and Spirit. He recriminates upon him in demonstrating, that his Church for a Series of nine or ten Centuries had been guilty of as many and great *Variations* both in Point of Doctrine, Discipline, and Form of Worship: And he sets

the Variations, which had really taken Place, in a fair, and as satisfactory a Light as they will admit. He has on this Occasion several curious Anecdotes on the History of the Church of *England*, on the Variations and Changes of which in the Time of *Wickliff*, *Henry VIII*, *Edward VI*, and Queen *Elizabeth*, the *French* Prelate is very copious, and assumes an Air of Triumph. Several of these Anecdotes have escaped the Notice of Bishop *Burnet*, and our other good Historians and Apologists. Dr. *Wake*, late Archbishop of *Canterbury*, was a great Admirer of this Work of *Basnage*. That great Man was at *Paris*, in Quality of Chaplain to Lord *Preston*, Ambassador from King *James II*. when the Bishop of *Meaux* published his *Variations*; as also his *Exposition of the Catholick Faith*. On the last of these Tracts, which was *Meaux's* Master-piece, and proselited many thousands to his Church, the *English* Divine made several important Discoveries. He gave early Notice to the Reformed Churches, that the Doctrine it contained was not Roman Catholick; that the *Pope* and *Gallican* Church had been prevailed upon to own it as such with great Difficulty; and that their doing so was only *pro tempore*, and to serve a Turn. And indeed, if that little Piece really contained a true Account of the Faith of the Roman Catholick Church, as the solemn Attestation of the *Pope* and *Gallican* Church prefixed to it would affirm, it is no wonder



wonder (the Doctrine of Transubstantiation only excepted) that it induced so many thousands to return to that Communion.

Mr. *Basnage* not contented with those two important Works, which suited his Profession, form'd also the Design of writing the History of the Republick. He had great Advantages for putting it in execution. He was intimate with the leading Men of the State, by whom he was even consulted on Occasion. He was well read in the Histories of the neighbouring Countries. He does not begin much earlier than his own Time; so that he could receive Informations from the living Members of the Commonwealth, and others, who had been concerned in the publick Affairs. He was also gratified more perhaps than any other Foreigner, with the Sight of the Registers and Resolutions of the *States*. He begins only at the Treaty of *Munster* in 1648. and comes down to the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Rastadt* in 1713. and 1716. I have seen only one Volume of this Work: the second is posthumous. There are many curious Things in it relating to the History of *England*, the Affairs of which are very much interwoven with those of the *United Provinces*. He is an impartial Historian, and does not lessen the Losses and Defeats of the Nation. The Introduction is a very full Account of the Polity or Civil Government of the Republick. In order to set so intricate a Subject in a clear Light, the Author employed unusual Care and

and Application. He wrote down his own Observations on one Side of the Paper, and left the other blank, for those of the Persons to whom he applied for such Additions and Amendments as should be judged necessary. He sent those Papers to the several Provinces, but had most of them return'd without any Remarks. This Work is however very valuable, and gives a better Insight into the Nature of the Government of this great Commonwealth, than any Thing that has hitherto appeared. Sir *William Temple* attaches himself to Generals: *Basnage* enters into an ample and curious Detail. He sometimes animadverts on Sir *William*; but with the Politeness and Respect due to so great a Man.

Mr. SAURIN was another eminent Minister of the *French Church* at the *Hague*. He shone out with extraordinary Lustre in this Seat of Learning and Politeness. He was educated with the late TURRETIN of *Geneva*. After he had finish'd his Travels thro' *France*, *Germany*, and *England*, he was, I believe, Chaplain for some time to a Regiment in *Flanders*. He was recalled from thence to be Minister Extraordinary, and Chaplain to the Nobility at the *Hague*; both which Places were instituted in his Favour. He answered, or rather far exceeded, the Expectations of his great Patrons, who were no less Persons than the first of the Republick. He was the greatest Preacher of his Time. When it came to his Turn, seventy or eighty Coaches, which

which filled the whole Court, might be counted at the Church Door. His illustrious Audience honoured him with their great Attention and Applause, and yet Mr. *Saurin* preached a severe Morality. He declaimed against the Vices of the Great, Waste and Diffipation of Time, Gaming, Luxury, with all the Vehemence of a *Chrysoftom*, or a *Gregory Nazianzen*. These Vices, as displayed by this great Orator, appeared no Peccadillos of Fashion, Habits of Rank and Fortune, and indifferent Things; and he made strong Impressions on many. They were so far from being displeased with his Freedom, that they declared, the Minister was an honest Man, and did his duty without respect to persons. A certain great man said to him one day, *Mr. Saurin, you make me uneasy; but I am sure you intend nothing but our Good both here and hereafter: I should be a much worse man, if it were not for you: so pray go on.* He would sometimes rise to such a Sublimity both of Sentiments and Expressions, as surprized every body, and made those who did not know him, and were not his usual Hearers, imagine he was no less solicitous to teach his Audience Eloquence and Pronunciation, than Piety and Virtue. The late Queen Consort, *Caroline of Great Britain*, had a singular Regard for *Saurin* and his Writings. He was offered the *French* Royal Chapel at St. *James's*. He has a Brother in *Ireland*, who is a Dean; and he himself might have been a Dean, Bishop,



Bishop, or what he pleased; but the Administration of *Holland* would have been as loth to lend him their Interest with that of *Great Britain* on such an account, as he was far from desiring it. He printed several Volumes of Sermons; but he should have printed himself also, whose fine Delivery added such Graces to those Discourses. His Catechism, like most others, is an abridged System of Divinity; but fitter for the Adult than young Beginners. His Discourses, moral, historical, critical, &c. on the Bible, are his most considerable Work, and have abundance of philological and critical Learning in them. The Author bestowed extraordinary Application on this Work, which he did not live to compleat. It has been continued by *La Roque* of *Lausanne*, and *Beaufobre* of *Berlin*. The Copper-plates, with which it is adorned, are exquisitely fine: there is one of them to each Discourse. They were done by *Hoet*, *Houbracken*, and *Picart*. The first Volume was translated into *English*, but without the Cuts; which was injudiciously done, because the Discourses were principally intended to explain them. On their account only the Work is fit to adorn the Cabinets of the Curious. Mr. *Saurin* published a Treatise or two against the Roman Catholicks, who retorted by venting their Malice in Scandal, and imputing base Vices to him, tho' his Life was as free from them, as Light from Spots. His extraordinary Merit paid the usual Tribute to  
some

some of his own Religion. Several invidious Pens attacked him on the Subject of Heterodoxy. *Saurin* had a great Spirit; and could not brook such Treatment. His noble Friends did their utmost to make him despise them, and to divert him: but all would not do. He languished for a considerable Time, and at last died of Chagrin. In him the *Hague* lost its chief Delight, the Widow and Orphan a charitable Friend, the Reformed Churches one of their brightest Ornaments and Assertors, and the polite World a fine Gentleman.

Another Person, who for fifty Years and upwards acted a great Part in the Commonwealth of Letters, was Mr. *Le CLERC* of *Amsterdam*. He was without doubt the most universally learned Man of his Time. His philosophical Works have been differently received. His particular Thoughts on various Subjects are wrote with admirable Judgment; as is his History of Cardinal *Richlieu*, and his Annals of the two first Centuries of the Church. His Translation of the New Testament, and his Comment upon the Old, to which last he applied himself in an extraordinary manner, are Proofs of his great Knowledge of the *Greek*, *Hebrew*, and Oriental Languages. His accounting for the Passage of the *Israelites* over the *Red Sea*, and the drowning of the *Egyptians* who pursued them; for the Fall of the Walls of *Jericho*, and other real Miracles related in the holy Scriptures, by natural

natural Causes, are affecting proofs of the blindness into which the greatest of Men fall, when they abandon a better Light, and give themselves up to their own. This scientifick Person, whose great Learning and Judgment are so conspicuous, and cast so great a Light on other Occasions, on these vents such trifling silly things, as cannot be considered, but as Chimera and Nonsense. His Translation of the

Beginning of St. *John* is too philosophical, and foreign to the Simplicity of the sacred Stile. His *Latin* Version of *Hammond*, and additional Notes, have done Honour to the Original, and caused it to be read all over *Europe*. His *Bibliothèques*, or Journals, have too much of himself, and too little of his Authors: besides they are wrote in a dry manner. *Le Clerc* did not know what it was to enliven his Subject; which Talent was peculiar to his great Antagonist Mr. *Bayle*, who had as just and fine a Pen as any Writer in any Age. *Le Clerc* had Bickerings with several other learned Men, and in particular with Dr. *Whitby*, who used him roughly in his Annotations, of which he often complained to the Doctor's Diocesan, Bishop *Burnet*. That Prelate was at a Loss how to behave between them; for he honoured *Le Clerc*'s Learning and Parts, and when he was in *Holland*, used to visit him at *Amsterdam*. *Le Clerc* kept an elbow Chair, which he used to shew such of the *British* Nation as came to see him, and called  
by



by the Bishop's Name. The Occasion was as follows. Dr. *Burnet* one Day, after having ran over the City to view the Curiosities, and visit several learned Men, came into *Le Clerc's* in a great Sweat, and threw himself down in this Chair with all his Weight. The Chair gave way, and down came the Doctor to the Ground; upon which *Le Clerc* joked, and said amongst other things, that the falling down of one of her strongest Pillars was a bad Omen for the Church. The Doctor was so fatigued with the Rambles of the Day, that he could not get up without the Assistance of *Le Clerc* and his Maid, who raised him, and carried him to a Bed, where he slept seven or eight Hours without turning himself: so that one may conceive, that the Danger of the Church did not lie very heavy upon his Spirits at that time.

The great Earl of *Shaftsbury*, Dr. *Burnet*, and *Le Clerc* formed a kind of Triumvirate in private Life; and a like learned Society was afterwards formed between the *Amsterdam* Professor, the Honourable 'Mr. O——', Speaker of the House of Commons, and one or two more *English* Gentlemen.

Some Overtures were once made for inviting *Le Clerc* to *Cambridge*. I do not know what interfered; but am assured that *Le Clerc* would most willingly have accepted a Professorship there; for he had a great Regard for the *English* Nation and Church, and for the University

sity of *Cambridge* in particular. *Le Clerc* would have been the Ornament of any University, and done Honour to any Science he had been called in to teach.

This great Man several Years before his Death grew childish: almost all his Senses forsook him, so that he neither remember'd, nor knew those about him. The Imbecillity of human Nature, and what a mere Bubble Man is, were a moving Spectacle in him. This total Dereliction of Mind did not proceed so much from Age, as from having intirely exhausted his Spirits in Study and intense Application. What the late Archbishop of *Canterbury* said of Mr. *Justell*, the Author of the *Codex ecclesiae Africanae*, might be well applied to him: It was, *That Justell died of his Books*

*Le Clerc* died in 1736. aged 79. He succeeded *Limborch*, who was Professor of Philosophy and Ecclesiastical History to the *Remonstrants* at *Amsterdam*, and died in 1712. His other Predecessors were great Men; *Courcelleus*, *Brandt*, and *Episcopius*.

I had almost forgot to mention two other Works of *Le Clerc's*. The one is the History of the United Provinces, illustrated with Medals, in two or three Volumes in Folio. It is probable, that he wrote this History with the View of representing the Affairs of the *Remonstrants* in the light, wherein he was desirous they should be consider'd by Posterity.

His

His two Dissertations on the Truth of the Christian Religion, by way of Supplement to *Grotius*, are in every body's Hands, having been translated into *English* with that Treatise. In the first he treats of the Choice to be made of Opinions amongst all those which divide the Christian World. He thinks the Protestant Religion to be preferred before any Sect that derives Part of its Doctrines from any other Source than that of the New Testament; as from Tradition, &c. In the second he confutes such as hold the Indifference of Religions with respect to Salvation; that is, as if all were equally capable of leading Men to everlasting Happiness, provided they lived good and moral Lives.

I shall, with the Reader's Favour, mention one Author more, tho' dead a considerable time. His History is something singular, and still the Subject of Conversation in *Holland*, tho' not well understood by the Generality of the *Dutch* themselves. But a great Historian of our own Nation has explained the Mystery, and particularly the \* Cause of his Disgrace. The Person in question is the famous WICQUEFORT. He was born at *Amsterdam*, was a Man of considerable Parts, and *Dutch* Secretary and Translator of the Intelligence that came from *England*, the Originals of which were sometimes left in his Hands. When

\* Bishop *Burnet's* History of his own Times, Book III. Mr. *Basnage* in his *Introduction*, and M. *Bynkershoek* in his *Competent Judge of Ambassadors*, relate *Wicquefort's* Affair with some Difference. I have given the Substance of what they all say of it, in this Place.



Sir *Joseph Williamson*, our Minister Plenipotentiary, return'd from *Cologne* in 1675. he had a secret Interview with *Wicquefort*, and prevailed upon him to deliver some of these Papers to him. *Williamson* had probably heard of *Wicquefort's* Character at || *Paris*. Most of these Letters were wrote by Lord *Howard*, who held a secret Correspondence with the Court of the Prince of *Orange*, to whom he gave very good Intelligence. He was a Man of Wit and Learning, very enterprizing, and a violent Malecontent. The Court of *England* was in some Perplexity upon the Discoveries made by these Papers. *Howard* was committed to the Tower, where he was examined, and confounded at the Sight of his own Letters. Notice of all this was sent to the *Hague*. *Wicquefort* was called upon to produce all the original Letters confided to him; and upon his not doing so, was clapt up in Prison. The States sent King *Charles* word, that if any Person suffered in *England* on account of the Letters betrayed by their Secretary, his Head should pay for it. When the Judges were consulted concerning the Nature of this Crime (the Papers having been given after the Peace was concluded; for otherwise betraying the Secrets of the State to Enemies, was manifestly Treason) they came to this Resolution: That as the Roman Law made every thing *contra salutem Populi Romani* Capital, the delivering up those Papers was a Capital

|| See *Pufendorff* l. 7. Rer. *Brandenburg*. p. 437.

Crime. This Menace saved *Howard*; but *Wicquefort* was condemned to perpetual Imprisonment, with Confiscation of all his Fortune. He had the Character of Resident from the Duke of *Brunswick Lunenburg*, upon which he § insisted. The States however thought, that coming into their Service was throwing up that Character; and the Duke of *Brunswick Lunenburg* himself stirred very little in his behalf.

*Wicquefort* was allowed his Books: and to illude the Irksomness of Confinement, as well as to vindicate the Privileges of publick Ministers, composed a Treatise on Ambassadors. It is a long-winded Piece, and wrote in no agreeable Style. He published it soon after his Escape out of Prison, which was effected by the Contrivance

§ *Wicquefort* was in the Service of the States, and Agent, as Resident, to the Duke of *Lunenburg* at the same Time; which is no extraordinary Thing, the Republick allowing it. The noble *Bynkershoek* accordingly observes upon this Occasion, that the Baron *de Charnace* and the Count *D'Estrades* were at the same time Ambassadors of *France* to the States General, and Officers in the Army of their High Mightinesses.

As Princes frequently chuse their Ambassadors out of the State to which they send them, it has been a Question, whether such Ambassadors become the Subjects of him who employs them, or continue under the Jurisdiction of the State, whose Subjects they are born? *Wicquefort* in his Book endeavours to prove the first of these Opinions by a great Variety of Examples, and Reasonings from the Civil Law, and the Law of Nations. This is his Thesis, which, in my Opinion, cannot well be disputed with him; tho' the eminent Author just quoted seems to do so. But this was not exactly *Wicquefort's* Case: and I cannot believe, that the Supreme Court of *Holland* condemned him as their Subject, but as their Servant, who had betrayed the Trust confided to him; for which the States, as his Masters (not as his Sovereigns) had full Right to punish him.

of one of his Daughters, who ventured her Life to procure her Father's Liberty.

He also meditated writing the History of the Republick, during his Confinement; but the Government, considering the particular Circumstances of the Author, justly suspected, that his Passions and Resentment might have a Share in the Work, and for that Reason prevented the Publication of it a great while. It appeared however at last in 1719. but not till the States had first inspected into the Work, and rectify'd the Mistakes they found in it.

From the Histories of *Wicquefort*, *Basnage*, and *Le Clerc*, who were all very able Men, but who wrote with very different Views, a good History of the Republick might be compiled by a discerning and impartial Author; but perhaps such a Person is not easily, if at all, to be found, to write the History of this or any other Nation.

*Strada* the Jesuit, who is almost the only Author read by Strangers, little deserves that peculiar Distinction; not so much on account of his Partiality, a Fault too common to all Historiographers, but his Want of Judgment, his fictitious Harangues, as there is Reason to believe them, and his immoderate Praises of a few Men, for whose sakes one would think he composed his History. *Bentivoglio* taxes him with Imprudence, for treating of War and Politicks, Topicks of which he knew nothing: But with respect to the first, the Nuncio himself perhaps had done



well to have followed the Gospel Advice of *taking the Beam out of his own Eye.*

*Wicquefort's* Letters are not quite so good as might be expected from a Man of his Wit and Intelligence: They have however several curious Strokes in them. He observes, that *Machiavel* in his political Works speaks only of what Princes do, and not of what they ought to do. And indeed, Tyrants only seem to have been *Machiavel's* Masters, and to have dictated all his political Pieces; his sole Delight being to fish in impure Streams, and to draw the most ugly Pictures. — Speaking of King *Charles* the First's Queen, who was to bring over the Princess her Daughter to espouse *William* II. Prince of *Orange*, *Wicquefort* says, That Voyage is the more uncertain, as it depends on three of the most inconstant Things in the World; a Woman, the Wind, and the Parliament of *England*. *Præcipue quod totum hoc negotium pendeat a tribus inconstantie symbolis; fœmina, vento, & parlamento.*

Of the Ingenuity and Learning of the *Dutch* I shall treat hereafter.

In general it were to be wished, that the learned Foreigners, who reside in the United Provinces, did not give so much into Collections, Dictionaries, Biography, and Things of that kind. Not that those Works are without their Utility: But how many are there, who are more intent upon writing the Life of a learned Man, than of becoming learned themselves! The *English* had

the good Sense to stand longer out against these kind of Books, than other Nations; but of late they seem as fond of them as any; and it will be well, if we know when to stop, and to set Bounds to our Avidity this Way. Perhaps the General Dictionary, which includes *Bayle*, *Chambers*, the Dictionary of Arts and Sciences, with *Harris*, voluminous Compilations, and indeed excellent of their kind, may suffice us for Books of this Sort, and prevent us from giving into endless Repetitions, and trifling Collections, into which the Learning of several of our neighbouring Nations has very much dwindled. Hitherto the *English* have been in great Reputation all over *Europe*, for applying themselves to what is noble and solid in Learning. The Novels amongst them are foreign Productions. *Telemachus*, *Don Quixote*, and *Crusoe*, are the only Pieces that stand their ground; whilst Romances, and such kind of Writings, are little regarded, and soon thrown aside. The spelling and misplacing of a Word, the various Readings of the various Readings of an ancient Author, Collections of the Thoughts of learned Men upon Nothing, are Refinements in the Commonwealth of Letters, which have hitherto gain'd little or no ground amongst us. We have not yet had a Dictionary of Dictionaries; a Dictionary of the Learned of every County, Town, and Village in *England* (*Britain* is too barren for that) a Dictionary of Tricks

Tricks and Frauds, in which we are also not very fruitful; or if we were, we should not think them important enough to be propagated in Volumes. We do not conceive ourselves obliged to write the Life of every Parson, Lawyer, and Physician that dies; or to trace long Genealogies for them, and give learned Analyses of every silly Treatise or Pamphlet they published in their Lives. Nor shall we ever dream, I hope, of accompanying these very curious Pieces of private History with Notes in the first Edition, Notes upon Notes in the second, *cum notis variorum* in the third. That I do not exaggerate here, all, I believe, who are acquainted with the present State of Letters in *Europe*, will own: And one might compile a Dictionary of Instances to prove it, were the Task as useful as it is easy, and it could be done without a kind of national Reflections. It cannot however be taken amiss to observe here in respect to the *Germans*, that tho' they have wrote Genealogies innumerable, and published so many Diplomata, Acts, Rules, and Usages, not only of every State or Province, but of every petty Seigniory, District, Village, School, Convent, University, &c. enough, collected together, to compose a Body of 5 or 600 Folio's; yet have not these laborious *Germans* been so kind to favour the World with an History of *Germany*, tho' in only one Volume. Thus the immense Colle-



tions of Materials for that History published by *Menck*, *Leibnitz*, *Ludewig*, *Eccard*, &c. have hitherto remained without their intended Use. Neither have any of their Philosophers given us a Natural History of *Germany*, tho' no Nation abounds with so many Societies of Virtuosi, whose Members have published detach'd Pieces and loose Scraps upon their little Districts. But as to a Part of an old Medal, or a Lake remotely hinted at in an ancient Poet, These must be cleared up with the utmost Passion, Pains, and Prolixity, as Matters of infinitely more Importance, than to know the History of their Forefathers, and the Virtues of those Waters, Plants, Fruits, Food, and Air, so necessary to their Country and themselves.

The Learned of *Italy* have had the like important Avocations from compiling an History, whether civil or natural, of their Country. It is however to be hoped, that Time will produce both; for some very important Discoveries have been made towards them; the Learning and Enquiries of *Italy* having been very well employed during the three last Centuries. It is now found out, and demonstrated beyond the Possibility of Contradiction, that the *Corona Radialis* had twelve Rays in it, and not six or eight, as was fondly believed before. That *Juno Sospita's* Feet were always bare, tho' the Generality of Antiquaries and Sculptors have been so ignorant, as to wrap them up in  
Buskins

Buskins or Stockings. It is also fully made out, that the *Tibia*, or *Flajolet*, had more Stops than it has hitherto been described to have; and this the last Pope but one, who was a very profound Scholar, declared to be his Opinion, tho' he would not take upon him to ascertain their Number. Several other Virtuosi, of more Presumption, though perhaps not more Learning, have ventured to give their Conjectures upon this nice Point in very curious and elaborate Differtations. And for two hundred and fifty Years past, not only *Italy*, but the greatest Part of *Europe*, have been in a very gross Error concerning the particular Dress of *Priapus*; whereas now there is nothing clearer, than that the aforesaid God had several Dresses, which several eminent Men are now actually employed in making out. *Pliny's* two floating Islands are not yet found; but what has not been, may in Time be effected. The learned Persons, who are at present in pursuit of them, conceive they have made a greater Progress towards that Discovery, than the most diligent of their Predecessors.

But to be serious: The *Italians* are so intirely taken up with what the People and Country were seventeen hundred Years ago, that they neglect the present Condition of both. Their Cities are now thin of Inhabitants, their Soil barren and uncultivated, and themselves a pusillanimous,

fillanimous, enervate, lazy People. No matter for that: in the Days of yore the *Romans* were a brave and noble People, the Conquerors of the World; the Country was fertile and delicious, and so full of Inhabitants, that *Roman* Colonies were sent to settle in all the Provinces of *Europe*. And so much for them and their Learning.

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## C H A P. V.

*The Manner in which Strangers live  
at the HAGUE.*

THE Inhabitants of the *Hague* are more genteel, conversible, and civil to Strangers, than those of the other Cities of the Provinces. It must however be owned, that they are as defective in Point of Hospitality, as those of the other Cities. They hardly know what it is to invite a Stranger to drink a Glass of Wine, or a Dish of Tea, and much less to a Dinner. They excuse this Excess of Parsimony, by saying, that were they to give into the Custom of Entertainments, as practised in other Countries, they should soon be undone, in effect of being visited by so great a Number of Strangers. Their Case in this respect is indeed different from that of all other Nations. As for the rest, People are treated with many outward Marks of Civility in this Country. I never saw Inferiors treated with so much Complaisance. The Nobleman, the Minister of State, plain and modest by Nature, Education, or Policy, return the Salute of the meanest of the People with great Kindness and Affability. In that they imitate *William I.* Prince of *Orange*, the Founder of the Republick.

That

That great and wise Prince, who render'd himself so dear to the People by those little Condescensions, used to say, *Hominem benè emi, qui salutatione constaret*: A Man was bought cheap, that cost no more than a Bow or Salute.

The remarkable Equality among the Men of this Country is no less conspicuous among the Women, who are, if possible, more upon the Level, and more condescending than the former. Punctilio's, Place, and false Points of Honour are as little regarded here, as they are affected and prevail in most other Countries. And we need not go to *Italy*, *Germany*, or *France* for Examples of this kind. *Flanders* is no less famous for the high Spirits of her Women, than the Bravery of her Men. I remember a pretty Story upon this Occasion, of the Emperor *Charles V.* who for his Wisdom and Integrity, especially in deciding dubious and intricate Cases, has been compared to King *Solomon*.

That great Prince was once at *Brussels*, when a great Dispute arose between two Ladies of the highest Distinction about Precedency, or taking Place, which was very near occasioning a fatal Division between the principal Families of that Province. The indignant Ladies were at length with great Difficulty prevailed upon to leave the Determination of an Affair so highly affecting their Honour, or their Pride, to the Emperor. His Majesty accepted the Office of Arbitrator, and having fixed a Day for the Decision, declared,  
that

that he would pass Judgment in the great Hall of Audience, and in the Presence of the whole Court.

When the important Day arrived, never was the Hall of Audience more crowded. The fair Sex flocked thither in great Numbers to hear a Decision, in which they were so highly concerned. Never was the Emperor's Presence expected with greater Impatience; whilst considerable Wagers were laid, on which Side the Judgment would fall.

At length the Emperor came; and being seated on the Throne, with a serious and grave Tone and Countenance, he said, so as to be heard by every body: *We have well and duly weigh'd the Dispute between these two Ladies; and our Commands are, that she, who is the prettiest and most beautiful of the two, shall upon all Occasions give Place and Precedency to the other.*

This unexpected Decision gave Things a quite different Turn: Neither of the Ladies would insist upon her Rank on such Conditions. The Question now was not who should go first, but who should go last; and had there not been two Doors to the Hall, it would have been very difficult to have persuaded either of them to have gone home. However this Decision had so good an Effect, that there was no such Thing as a Dispute about taking place in *Brussels*, or all *Flanders*, for many Years afterwards. The Judges, to whom Appeals should have been made in such Cases, would in all Probability have made

Charles



*Charles* the Fifth's Judgment the Rule of theirs, and thereby given the Emperor's Regulation the Force of a Law in such Controversies. Some such Law as this might be of no small Utility in *Italy* and several other Countries.

But to return to our Subject. The *Dutch* are so far from excessive Ceremony, that some think they give into the contrary extreme. However it little concerns the Stranger to regard that, or their Manner of living in general; because, as to himself, he may live in what Way, and almost in what Company he pleases. He may have here his own Countrymen, his own Language, his own Place of Worship and Religion, unless he happens to be of a very extraordinary one indeed, or of none at all: for all here have one kind or another. He may also lodge with his own Nation, and put up in Inns, and use Coffee-houses kept by them. If this be the Case with regard to most of the People of *Europe* in general, it is in a particular manner so with regard to the *British* Nation.

The Expences of living here are almost on a *par* with those of *Paris*, and rather greater than at any other Capital in *Europe*, but far less than at *London*.

The *Parlement D'Angleterre*, or Parliament of *England*, is a principal Inn of the *Hague*, and answers the King's Arms in *Pall-mall*, or Pontac's in the City. It requires good Oeconomy to come off for 15 Shillings, or a Guinea a Day at the

two last; but the *Auberge*, or Ordinary of the *Hague*, costs only five or six Shillings. The Dinner is a Florin, or 20 Pence of our Money, and the Bottle of ~~Wine~~ another (or the Pint 10 Pence) so that one may dine here for half a Crown as elegantly as at the two *English* Houses for half a Guinea, or fifteen Shillings. There is always very good Company of several Nations here, much Decency and Politeness observed, and twelve or fifteen Dishes of Meat on the Table. They are well dress'd, and most of them nice and delicate according to the Season; as Hares, wild Fowl, tame Fowl, which are brought as far as from *Guelderland*, *Brabant*, and the Country about *Breda*; besides Soups, Custards, Fish of all Sorts, and always two or three kinds of Butcher's Meat for those who chuse it, with good Deserts. One is at a Loss to know how the People can afford to cover a Table with so costly a Variety for the Money. The Inns of the *Hague* are undoubtedly the best in the World. This is kept by *Dutch* People, but they make a shift to understand *English*. *French* is the Language commonly spoke at Table, and on every other Occasion. As to their Meat, and Manner of dressing it, they observe a Medium between the *French* Kick-shaws and Hotch-potch, and the *English* Plainness, and small Number of Dishes. This House, as well as all the *Dutch* Inns, is far more cleanly in cooking than the *French*, and does not bring upon the Table a third or fourth

Fourth Time the same thing metamorphosed into different Shapes. In the *French* Hotels the Victuals often comes three or four Times thro' the dirty Cook's Hands; and that too perhaps after having been set before stragling Guests, or on the Table of the Family, where every one has pick'd what he pleased. I must own, after having seen such rascally doings in these Houses, I have always as industriously avoided, as others have enquired after them. Besides which, they have not Heart to provide handsomely for their Guests, and are so saving and penurious, the *Foible* and Habit of their Nation, that they count every Bit one puts into one's Mouth. They are as well pleased to see their Dishes not touched, as an hearty *English* Landlord is displeased, when he thinks his Guest does not like his Victuals.

Not far from *the Parliament of England* there is an *English* House, whither those who speak no Language but their own, may resort. It is a good House, and the Prices of Things the same as at the former.

On the *Spuy* is a good *Dutch* Inn, called the *Hoff van Utrecht*. The Price is a Gilder a Day, or a Shilling for the Dinner only. There is always good Company here, particularly of the Gentlemen of the Army, who come to the *Hague*, either for Pleasure or Business. As their Pay will not admit them to be extravagant, they make choice of this House, because they are not obliged to drink Wine, there being none sold

at



at it; besides which, the Eating is very good, and the House handfom. Such as chuse a Glas of Wine, may have it fetched from the Cellars at the rate of ten Pence a Bottle.

There are no Taverns either at the *Hague*, or in the Province, which does not a little disconcert the *English*, who in their own Country enjoy themselves no where so well as in those Houses. All here, whether Natives or Strangers, lay in a certain Quantity of Wine at their Houses or Lodgings. They bring it from *Rotterdam*, where that Liquor is cheapest. It is to be had of all Prices. The *Dutch*, who are a saving People, drink a Sort at the rate of six or seven Pence a \* Bottle, which is a sweet white Wine, very luscious to a Stranger's Palate. It is believed to be worked up with Lime, being hot and heady, and consequently well enough suited to the cold phlegmatick Constitutions of those that drink it. The Generality of the *Dutch* drink only white Wines, so that in most of the Inns of the Provinces no other is to be had: Neither is there any other used at the Communion. Were red Wine presented to the Communicants, thousands would not receive, having never been used to it.

*French* Claret is to be had from six, or seven, to eighteen Pence a Bottle, and *Champagne* and

\* Some even drink a cheaper Sort, for which they give nine or ten Florins an Anchor, containing 48 Bottles, or Quarts, so that it comes to four or five Pence a Bottle. At this Price, the Strength of the two Liquors consider'd, Wine is cheaper than the common strong Beer, three Pence a Quart.

*Burgundy* at two Shillings, and half a Crown. *Rbenish* and *Moselle* Wines are much drank by the better Sort of People, which are sold from 18 Pence to half a Crown a Bottle. Those Wines are brought down the *Rbine* and *Maes* to *Rotterdam*, which City and *Dort* are the Staples for them. In short, all Sorts of Wine that grow upon the Face of the Earth, are to be had in *Holland* for half, or rather one third of the Price they are drank at in *England*.

The Rent of private Lodgings at the *Hague* bear much the same Proportion with those at *London*. The latter however are more completely furnished, and more comfortable in the Winter. The *English* have the best Bedding in the World. The Stranger at the *Hague* may generally board in the House where he lodges, which is no small Conveniency to such as are not obliged to dress, and go abroad every Day. He pays a Shilling for his Dinner, or *Midmal*, as they call it, and is sure of two or three good Dishes: Such as are Lovers of Fish, dress in various and delicate Manners, may regale at a *Dutch* Table. He finds his own Wine, and drinks his own Tea, Coffee, and Chocolate, which he buys equal in Goodness for about a third cheaper than at *London*. The better Sort of Citizens make use of Tea at four Shillings a Pound, of which the Excise only comes to as much in *England*.

Most

Most Sort of wearing Apparel is to be had here in the same Proportion of Price ; as Linen, Cambrick, Laces, &c. A *Dutch* Gentleman makes as good a Figure in Cloth of a Ducat, or half a Guinea a Yard, as we do in that of a Guinea. The *English* Cloth is finer, and more bare ; the *Dutch* coarser, thicker, and more woolly, and therefore better suited to their Climate.

There are no Chairs at the *Hague*, but very handfom Hackney-coaches. They do not ply in the Streets, but People send for them to certain Houses ; and often before they come, the Rain is over, and they are not wanted. A Shilling is their Fare for every Set-down. The Beauty and Cleanliness of the Streets are so extraordinary, that Persons of all Ranks do not scruple, but even seem to take pleasure in walking them. The Women use only Slippers. The Streets are paved with Bricks (or more properly speaking, a kind of Clinkers) laid so close together, that they are as clean as any Chamber Floor. Every Inhabitant once a Week washes the Pavement before his Door, and the Outside of his House, with Water-engines ; so that both are kept surprizingly clean and neat.

The Fuel of the Country is what Strangers can least reconcile themselves to. It is Turf, made of a bituminous Earth, dug out of Pits ; which in dry Years burns clear like Coal ; only it does not cast so much Heat, and therefore is



not so good for roasting Victuals; which may be one reason why the *Dutch* send their Meat so much to the Oven. On the other hand this Fuel has no Smoke to set asthmatick People a coughing, sully good Furniture, and blacken the Walls of the Houses without Doors, as the Smoke of Sea-coal does in *London*. Between *Leyden* and *Haarlem*, *Rotterdam* and *Gonda*, *Utrecht* and *Rbenen*, and in many other Parts of the Country there are such vast Pits and Caverns, that some have thought, the *Dutch*, instead of being drown'd by Inundations, would consume their whole Country in Firing; but it is observ'd, that the Earth from whence they dig this Fuel, fills up again in a few Years. In some Places this Earth is so unctuous and sulphureous, that *Guicciardin* says, it formerly took fire of itself in the Province of *Friesland* near the *Zuyder* Sea, and could not be extinguish'd by Art or Industry, till it had burnt two Leagues in Length, and as much in Breadth, when the subterraneous Waters broke in upon it, put it out, and formed the Lake now called *Jonker Meer*. *Becanus* also tells us, that the like happened in *Brabant* in 1541. and in the Province of *Utrecht* in 1567. In some Places they rake up Mud from the Bottom of the Water, which they carry away in Boats, spread upon the Ground as even as possible, lay Boards upon it, and so tread it down. When the Water is squeez'd out, they cut it in the Form of Bricks, and dry it for Fuel. The poor  
 People

People in some Places burn Cow-dung, which they dry in the same Manner.

As there are no Forests in *Holland*, nor indeed of any Extent in the other six Provinces, Wood is excessively dear at the *Hague*, and is burnt only by the foreign Ministers, and perhaps some few more, who cannot endure Turf. But the Natives of the first Rank content themselves with the Product and Manufacture of their own Country. Even in the Apartments of the States one sees no other Fuel, where the Turf is piled up in Form of a Pyramid. The *English*, and some others, use *Sunderland* and *Scotch* Coal. Many Vessels laden with those Coals arrive every Year in the several Ports of *Holland* and *Zealand* for the Use of Brewers and Black-smiths; that kind of Firing being properer than any other for their Purposes.

The portable Stoves universally used both by the Men and Women of these Provinces, are extremely convenient. It is a little square wooden Box, within which there is a small earthen Pan with a Bit of lighted Turf in it. The Stove has a Door, which is shut when the Pan is put in it, and Holes on the Top, on which People place their Feet by way of a Foot-stool. By this Contrivance they keep themselves gently warm the whole Winter's Day either by Land or Water; for with this little portable Equipage they travel, sit behind their Counters, and at Church, from which the coldest Day in Winter does not detain

tain them. If the Tüf be good, it keeps in two or three Hours, and when it is burnt out, they renew it. Strangers do not like Stoves at first, and complain, that they give them the Head-ach; but a little Time, and cold Weather reconciles them to the Use of them. They also dislike the Stove-rooms, and perhaps with more Reason, tho' their Heat may be increased or diminish'd to any Degree they please.

We have already said something of the Diversions and Entertainments of the *Hague*, as the Play-house, Concerts, Assemblies, and Gaming; and therefore to avoid Repetitions, refer the Reader to what he may find before concerning them.

A few Years ago there was a very grand Scene of Pleasure opened to the Inhabitants of the *Hague*. The opulent and magnificent M. *Lopez*, a *Jew*, was the Person, who conceived, and actually executed, the vast Design of entertaining the Town with a kind of Opera. With that View he brought from foreign Countries the finest Voices, and best Performers that were to be had, with every Thing else that could contribute to the Perfection and Grandeur of his Entertainment. The most illustrious Strangers, the Ministers of State, the foreign Ministers, and others of the highest Quality resorted to his House, to partake of the elegant Pleasure that generous Person at infinite Expences provided for them. They were received there in a Hall, or  
large



large Room, magnificently adorned and illuminated. The Musick was judiciously disposed in an adjoining Apartment, scarce inferior to the other in Beauty. Refreshments of all kinds were served about by Footmen in splendid Liveries. Whole Operas were not sung; but only select Parts, and *French* Cantatas. This new Entertainment, whilst it lasted, so intirely ruined the Play-house, that it was shut up, and the Actors were reduced to seek their Bread elsewhere. The Nobility had lost all Taste for any Diversion, except that given them once a Week by the Magnificent *Jew*. But as the Palate is soonest cloy'd with the richest Meats, the Mind of Man presently surfeits with the most exquisite Pleasures. The Taste of the Assembly changed, and the Number that went to the Entertainment, decreased exceedingly. *Lopez's* Spirit was too great to stay till he saw himself quite abandoned; and with the Politeness, which accompanies all his Actions, he did that, which the Company in general ought in Gratitude to have done in regard to him. He thank'd the remaining few for the Honour they had done him, and closed the Scene.

The *Jews* live more splendidly here than any where else. Messrs. *Swartzo*, *Dulis*, *D'Acosta* (whose Brother died last Year in *London* immensely rich) and *Texeyra*, would do Honour to Christianity in some Sense, and almost force us to envy the Synagogue the Possession of such extraordinary

traordinary Merit. Their every Day produces something great and good, without respect to Persons, or Religions. Humane and liberal to their Domefticks; charitable and beneficent to profufion to the Poor; generous and open-handed to the unhappy and difconfolate; pompous and princely in their Manner of living; beloved and honoured by all Orders of Men; they make and receive Vifits, frequent the Affemblies, and are real Ornaments to all the Places in which they appear.

There are two Synagogues here, and two at *Amfterdam*; of which the worft is finer than thofe at *Rome* and *Venice*. The *Jews* live in one of the fineft Quarters of the *Hague*, and have a Walk peculiar to themfelves on the Exchange, and Schools, where their Youth are educated in their Language and Religion. They have lately had feveral learned Men, and Persons of Note here; as

BEN ISRAEL, MOSES DI PAS, OROBIO, an eminent Phyfician, and JUDA LEO, who with great Pains and Application formed a Model of *Solomon's Temple*, the *Tabernacle*, the Camp of the *Israelites*, and other *Hebrew Curiofities*. I don't know, whether the Temple lately fhewn in *London*, and other Capitals of *Europe*, was done by him, or an ingenious Gentleman at *Hamburgb*. The *Jews* are very numerous in the United Provinces, and have a Synagogue in every Town of them. Their Number in *Amfterdam* only is reckon'd to be 20,000.

They

They are distinguish'd in all the Nations of *Europe* under the two Denominations of *Portugueze* and *German Jews*, of which the former are the richest, and of greatest Note. When they celebrate their Festivals, and circumcise Infants, there is no small crowding about their Synagogues; and it is worth a Stranger's Curiosity to be present on those Occasions.

The *Kermis*, or Fair of the *Hague*, is held in the Month of *May*, and lasts a Week. The *Beau Monde* used formerly to go in Masquerade about the Streets, during it, and to divert themselves several other Ways, as is done during the Carnival at *Venice*. The *Dutch*, who are naturally grave, love to give into the Follies and Entertainments of these Times, when disguised and undistinguished; and indeed they are under a Necessity of finding out Diversions to elevate and enliven them, in order to balance their sedentary Manner of Life, and the Heaviness of their Air. Every Town and Village of the seven Provinces have these *Kermises*: In the latter they last three Days; Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday; and in the former a Week, or a Fortnight. At *Amsterdam* there are two every Year, of which each continues fourteen Days. Anciently these Times were observed out of Religion, as being instituted to commemorate the building of the Parish Church; and afterwards in the darker Ages, on the rebuilding of the Church, these Seasons were



were kept in \* honour of the Saint to whom it was dedicated. At length they degenerated into such Riot and Disorders of all kinds, that the Emperor *Charles V.* and King *Philip II.* ordered that they should hold but one Day. But Feasting and Merry-making are of the Nature of those Things, which are not to be abolish'd by Edicts. They are called *Kermis*, or *Kerkmeſs* (*miſſa eccleſiæ*) becauſe the firſt Maſs or Worſhip was ſaid in the rebuilt Church on that Day. In the middle and Southern Counties of *England*, where theſe Feaſts are ſtill kept up in every Pariſh, they are called *Wakes*; becauſe the People waked all Night, and kept the Vigils on the Eve of the Saint or Patron of the Church: Or perhaps it might come from the old *Saxon* Word *Wake*, which ſignifies Drunkenneſs; becauſe thoſe Anniverſaries were become the ſtated Seasons for drinking and carouſing.

During theſe Feaſts the Clergy of the Dioceſe of *Utrecht*, which included the whole *Netherlands*, had their *charitas*, *charitas vini*, or *pocula charitatis*, which they took off in Memory of the Patron of the Cathedral of *Utrecht*: They even drank to the good Health of the deceaſed Saint. This puts me in mind of a merry Fraternity in *Spain*, who at the Interment of a Brother uſed

\* Accordingly at this time the Fairs in all the great Towns of *Europe* are kept on Saint's Days; as Michaelmas, Martinmas, Allhallow-tide, or All Saints.

to toss off a Glass with a, *Viva el muerto*, Long live the dead.

Many Disorders happen during the *Kermis*s at *Amsterdam*; so that a Stranger at such Times ought either to keep good Hours, or not to be there at all. Merchants and others resort to them from all Parts of *Europe*, but especially from the Empire, and expose to Sale a thousand rich Curiosities and Pieces of Art, with which in a Day or two one might furnish a pretty Cabinet of Rarities.

The Month of *May* is distinguished at the *Hague*, as in most other Cities and Countries of *Europe*, from all the Months of the Year. The *Beau Monde* begin to creep out of their Stove-rooms, to mount their Chaises, and form Parties of Pleasure. May-poles adorned with Garlands are planted in the Court, before the Apartments of the States General, of the Provincial States, the other sovereign Courts and Colleges, and one before the Door of each of the great Officers of the State. These Ensigns of Mirth and Sovereignty are set up by the Servants of the Government on the first Day of the Month, and stand till the last.

One of the principal Diversions of this Place is riding out in Chaises, or, as they are properly enough called, *Phaetons*, from their Lightness and Rapidity, which are surprizing. The Roads are as level and smooth as any Garden-walk; and the *Dutch* Horses, tho' they don't gallop, trot  
at

at the rate of ten or twelve Miles an Hour in those Machines, with two in them. And yet they are far excelled in Swiftneſs by the Horſes of *New England* and *Virginia*, which I have ſeen in a kind of Pace or Amble (for they can't gallop) make 16 or 18 Miles an Hour. I once ſaw two of them tried, which were valued at 20 l. each. Their Motion, notwithstanding their extreme Speed, was ſo eaſy, that they were thought fit only for Ladies Pads, and that it was Effeminacy for Men to uſe them.

The deadeſt Seafon of the Year in other Countries is the moſt lively in *Holland*. In Winter the *Dutch* divert themſelves upon the Ice with their Scates, on which they glide, or rather fly with amazing Rapidity. The Vulgar, and many of the better Sort can withſtand the Charms of the fineſt Day in Summer, and keep at home to mind their Work; but a cold Winter's Day has irrefiſtible Attractions. All Work is then thrown aſide, and out they go to the Canals and Meadows, which for two or three Months in the Year are cover'd with Water. Thouſands of Spectators reſort thither, ſo that the Towns and Villages are in a manner abandoned by their Inhabitants. It is a kind of univerſal Fair or Jubile. Booths are erected upon the Ice with good Fires in them, where warm Wine, Beer, Tea, and Coffee are ſold. Strangers, eſpecially thoſe who come from warm Climates, and never ſaw any Thing of the kind,  
are



are astonish'd at the endless Wonders of this Scene. Even the Natives of colder Countries are so taken with these Diversions, that they learn to skate, in order to practise it on their return home. Men, Women, and Children are equally expert at it in *Holland*. A *Boorinne*, or Country Girl, skates to Town with her Milk-pail; and many Merchants and others make their longest Journies on their Scates. You may sometimes see a String of twenty or five and twenty young Folks of both Sexes holding each other by their Handkerchiefs, shoot by you with almost the Rapidity of Lightning.

Persons of Distinction also take their Diversion at this Time in Sleds, which a Man, that skates behind, pushes forward with a long Pole: and sometimes they imitate the *High Dutch*. At the *Imperial*, *Saxon*, and other Courts the Ice and Snow afford a great Variety of Diversions, and some of a very pompous kind. The Lords and Ladies run Races in Sleds, and many other Machines contrived in the Shape of Lions, Griffins, Tigers, Swans, Dolphins, Peacocks, and the like Devices, well carved, painted, and gilt. The Lady sits in one of these, drest in Velvet, lined with fine Furs, and adorned with Lace and Jewels, with a Velvet Cap on her Head, faced and lined with Sables. The Machine is drawn by an Horse, finely set off with Feathers and Ribans, and with Bells hanging about him, and a Stag's Horns on his Head. One or more

Pages on Horseback ride on each Side with Torches in their Hands; and in this manner they perform the Course upon the frozen Snow about the Streets of *Vienna* and *Dresden* in the Night, driving full speed one after another.

In the Malls, particularly in that of *Leyden*, the Students and others bowl with wooden Bowls through an iron Ring. At *Utrecht* this Diversion, which is none of the most lively, is in disgrace.

The Vulgar have a Game or two not unlike this, which we shall not take the Pains to describe. The curious Stranger may however bestow a Quarter of an Hour in observing them. The Genius and Disposition of a People discover themselves no where more perhaps, than in their Diversions, or *menus plaisirs*, as the *French* phrase them.

A Traveller indeed ought to look into every Thing that falls in his Way: What is not good for one Thing, is for another; and the minutest may often suggest something towards the Discovery of the most important, whether for Utility or Pleasure.

The Stranger should by all means visit the *Dutch* Gardens, which are so famous. Sir *William Temple* says, that a Man had better lay out his Money on any Thing than on a Garden in a moist Soil; but that great Man, who wrote his Treatise on *Epicurus's* Gardens at *Sheen* in 1685. seems to have forgot the Country he had so lately quitted, and whose natural as well

well as civil State he had studied so much. It is certain, that the *Dutch*, thro' their extraordinary Industry and Riches, have many fine Gardens, tho' their Earth, as well as the other three Elements, which have also their Share in the Production of Plants, are very indifferent. They however commit some Errors in their manner of laying out their Gardens, thro' an ill-judged Imitation of those of *France* and *Italy*. In those hotter Climates Plenty of Greens and Water are extremely proper, as they afford refreshing Scenes, delightful Prospects, and cooling Bowers to retire to. But in *Holland* there is too much Water naturally. The Gardens are generally on the Banks of Canals, and moated about on the other Sides with deep Ditches full of Water; so that it is a gross Error to increase the great Humidity occasioned by the other Waters, by making new Canals and Basons within the Gardens. As to Hedges, Trees, and green Bowers, these are no Rarities in a Country, that every where abounds with Plants, and which, in such a wet light Soil, spring up like Mushrooms in a Night. Besides which, these do but augment the Moisture, that indeed is so great, the *Dutch* themselves dare not venture to stay long in their Gardens. The *French*, who took the first Plans of theirs from *Italy*, but who now far excel the Originals, do not crowd them too much with Trees, Plants, and Pieces of Water,

tho'



tho' those kinds of Things are far more ornamental and necessary in the Gardens of *France*, than in those of *Holland*.

If a Person thinks fit, he may pass an Hour here in a Bookseller's Shop to Advantage. He may inform himself there of what is carrying on in the Learned World: For the Booksellers of *Holland* correspond with most Parts of *Europe*. Tho' they are not obliged to be bred, and matriculated in an University, as the Booksellers of *Germany* are; yet many of them have had some Education, and speak *Latin*, or at least *French*. Formerly there was one *Johnson*, an *English* Bookseller here; but he removed to *Rotterdam*, where he died. His Shop was a very agreeable Place to the *English*; and the more, because the Man knew the World well.

Mr. *Scheurleer*, who lives near the Court, tho' a Native of the Country, speaks our Language very well, and deals in *English* Books. He has just printed a very beautiful Edition of *Thuanus* in *French*: It exceeds any Thing that has hitherto appeared on that great Writer. His Edition of Father *Du Halde*'s Description of *China* is magnificent, and the Copper-plates exquisitely fine.

The *Dutch* print vast Numbers of Books, which they vend to the better half of *Europe*; so that this Merchandize (for it may properly be called so) brings in a considerable annual Return

turn to the Country. And yet it was lately moved, that a Tax should be laid upon Paper. It would be bad for the Person who proposed it, if the old Law was in force, *That whoever proposed any thing to the manifest Præjudice of the Commonwealth, should be deemed an Enemy to it, and punished accordingly.* Was Paper to be taxed here, the Presses of *Paris, Brussels, Francfort, and London* would not fail to make great Rejoicings on the News. And this naturally leads us to say something of the Genius and Learning of the *Dutch*.

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## C H A P. VI.

*Of the GENIUS and LEARNING of  
the Dutch.*

THE Genius of a learned People is conspicuous in nothing more than in happy Emblems, Images, and Inscriptions; and in these the *Dutch* excel. Their Palaces, Country Houses, Museums, and Gardens abound with fine Thoughts and significant Representations, that at once amuse and instruct the Beholder. One would indeed imagine that the very Walls spoke, and that all about one was animated. The great Halls, and other Rooms of their Town-houses, are adorned with fine Paintings and Statues, Emblems and Symbols relating to Government. I know the present Taste of the World will not bear a Multiplicity of these Things; but when the Pieces are valuable in themselves, the Works of great Masters, and dispos'd with Judgement, methinks they multiply Delight and Instruction, as they are both moral and entertaining. Delicacy seems to be carried too far, and beyond Nature, when it takes Offence at the *Utile* and the *Dulce*.



Can any one that enters the Judgment-hall in the Stathouse of *Amsterdam*, be unmoved; when he casts his Eyes on the fine Marble Statues, as large as the Life, that hang down their Heads in a mournful Posture, as if they were bewailing the Fate of the unhappy? And who in passing the Spin-house is not struck, when he sees two Lions bridled, with this Inscription:

*Virtutis est domare, quæ cuncti parent.*

A fit Emblem for a Place intended for curbing the Vices of those, who refuse just Obedience to their Parents or Masters, and lead disorderly Lives.

On the Town-house in *Ter-veer* in *Zealand* are two lines in *Dutch*, of which the Sense is, *That Obedience to God and the Magistrate prevents all Calamities.* We cannot but express our Surprise here, that the *Zealanders* do not obliterate those lines, and that they should suffer the very Walls of their Council-house to cry out against them. Those Words should sound ill in the Ears of a People, who have withdrawn their Allegiance from their rightful Magistrate, and committed an Act of unheard of Violence against him.

The Motto's on their Sun-dials are moral and entertaining. That on the Dial of the Stathouse of *Middleburg* cannot be read without Emotion:

*Prætereunt & imputantur:*

Alluding to the Hours of human Life, which tho' they pass swiftly and unheeded away, must all be accounted for.

On the Dial of the Cathedral of *Bruges* the Sun is represented directing the Hours, with this pretty Motto, *Non rego, nisi regar*: signifying, that the Sun could not rule the Day, if it was not first ruled itself. Had the Pagan World known this Truth, the greatest Part of it had not fallen into Idolatry. The sublimest Motto I have met with, is on the Dial of *St. Neots* in *England*: *Lux Umbra Dei*, \* Light is the Shadow of God; alluding perhaps to those two beautiful Passages in the Scripture, which represent the Divinity as *dwelling in Light*; and *covering himself with Light as with a Garment*. On the other Side of the same Dial are these Words, Ζωὴ, Ἀτμὴ, Σκιά. *Life is a Vapor and a Shadow*.

On a large Picture, representing the Provincial States assembled in a very dangerous Conjunction, you find these Words, § *Valeant, qui inter nos discordiam volunt*: Let those be gone, who are for sowing Discord amongst us.

The well known Motto of the States inscribed on their Coin, says agreeably to this, *Concordiâ res parvæ crescunt, discordiâ dilabuntur*; and the Em-

\* PLATO has the same Expression literatim. Speaking of God, he says, *Truth is his Body, and Light is his Shadow*.

§ Perhaps it is, *Valeant, qui inter nos desidiâ volunt*; which may be rendered, *By upon them, who are for having us continue neutral and inactive*.

blem of the seven Rods fast bound together, which represent the strict Union of the seven Provinces. Separate those Rods, and take one after another, and they are easily broken; but to break them all together, requires far greater Strength. The Sense of the other Motto is much the same: *Frangemur, si collidamur*: We shall be broke to pieces, if we dash against one another.

On a Coin that was struck in the Infancy of the Republick, we find a Lion, with one half of his Body under Water, and the other half above it, beating the Waves with his Paws, and striving to get out, with this apt Legend, *Luctor & Emergo*.

It alludes to the noble Struggle made by a brave and oppressed People for their Lives and Liberties. I remember to have read the Words, *Patientia & spes*, on a Wind-mill; which are very pretty, and significant so applied.

We have occasionally mentioned several Things of the like nature in the Course of this Narrative; and it were easy to add many more Examples of this People's Ingenuity, but that were dwelling too long on this Point. We will therefore conclude it with an Account of a Farce, or Pantomimical Entertainment, performed before *Charles V.* at *Ghent*, the Capital of *Flanders*, in the Infancy of the Reformation, when hot Contests and Broils concerning Religion subsisted every where. Authors relate this Fact with some, but no material, Difference.

The



The Curtain being drawn up, a great many crooked Rods or Sticks were seen lying on the Stage. A Person of a lively air, with a Sword by his Side, enter'd first, and stooping, took up one of the Sticks, and laid it down again. He was in the Habit of a Canon, and as he walked off, the Spectators read on his Back \* ZUINGLIUS. The second Person that appeared, wore the Habit of a Doctor of Divinity. He seem'd a bold Man, and full of Fire. After he had taken up a Stick and laid it by itself, he spurn'd at the other Sticks, and in going off was known by his Name to be LUTHER. Next came a Person of a mild Aspect, who made towards the Rods, and after having dropt a Tear over them, took up two of them, and tried to make them meet in all Parts ; but not succeeding, he gently laid them down again, and in retiring shewed that he was CALVIN. After him appeared an Actor in a grave Habit. He went hastily to the Sticks, and taking them up one after another, endeavour'd to make them even, in order to bind them together ; but they were all so crooked, that he could not effect it. As he retired, he discovered on his Back § CALIXTUS. One with a long Beard, in a dirty kind of Garb, succeeded him. As soon as he cast his Eyes upon the Sticks, he looked fiercely,

\* He was Canon of *Zurich* in *Switzerland*, and about a Year before *Luther* was killed in a Battle against one of the Catholic Cantons.

§ He was for a Compre'

snorted, and grinned. In walking off he was known to be A CAPUCHIN. The Person that appeared next, had a malignant, fierce, and hideous Cast of Countenance. He made up to the Sticks, and immediately taking out a Flint and Tinder-box, struck Fire, and stooping down, took up the whole Heap of Rods, and was going to burn them all in the Flames he had kindled; but was prevented by a Person in the Habit of a Magistrate, who seemed to expostulate with him, and to be glad when he retired in a great Fury. The Spectators saw on his Back the Word INQUI-SITOR. Two old Persons clothed in red appeared next. They handled some of the Sticks, considered them attentively, and then seemed to enter into deep Deliberation. As they went off, they shook their Heads, and discovered THE CON-CLAVE on their Backs. They were stopt in going out by a Person of great Age, clothed in Purple, with three Crowns upon his Head. He did not vouchsafe to cast a single Regard towards the Sticks; but after a short Conference with the other two, several large Parchments were produced, upon which was inscribed in large Characters of Gold, BULLÆ. He then retired, followed by the other two, and the Spectators perceived it was HIS HOLINESS. Presently after enter'd several Persons of a noble Mein, richly clothed, and well armed. After they had consulted together some time, two Scrolls were seen in their Hands: On the one was the Word

PROTESTATION, and on the other THE AUGSBURGH CONFESSION. On going off, they discovered their Names, SAXONY, HESS CASSEL, BRUNSWICK LUNENBURGH, MECHLENBURGH, BRANDENBURGH, WIRTEMBURGH, and POMERANIA.

The Emperor and Court were all this while in a kind of Amazement, but seemed however to be pleased with what was represented.

At last enter'd a Person of a middle Stature, about 36 Years of Age, who with a majestick Air walked up to the Sticks, and viewed them one by one, but did not offer to make them straight: He even separated them, and turned their crooked Sides towards one another: After which he smiled, put his Hand to his Sword, and walk'd off. On his Back was inscribed CHARLES V.

The Emperor, seeing himself exposed on the Stage, and represented as taking a secret Pleasure in the Divisions of Religion, and in the publick Disorders, was in a Rage; and as soon as he got to his Palace, ordered that the Actors should be brought before him next Morning; but they had taken to their Heels immediately after the Play, and were never heard of more.

From these and other Instances of exquisite Wit and Genius, which we shall hereafter repeat, it is apparent, how little applicable the *Auris Batava* of MARTIAL (*Epig.* 82. *lib.* v.) is to the present Inhabitants of these Provinces. ERASMUS on that Adage refutes the Justness of



of it with great Vivacity, but he is himself the best Confutation of it that can be employed. It was for the Glory of the *Batavi*, that they despised MARTIAL's Verses, which he himself calls *Néquitie*. Nations, out of Vanity or Prejudice, sometimes form very odd Criteria for the Genius of each other. Because the *Germans* could not relish the immoderate Panegyrick, with which the *French* in their Madrigals flattered *Lewis XIV.* the *Monsieurs of Paris* called their Wit in question, and made this Proposition, *Whether a German could be a Bel Esprit*, Matter of solemn Disputation. This weighty Point they determined in the Negative; and not without reason, according to the Rule by which they tried it; for I really believe no *German* could write such enormous fine *Encomiums* on their *Grand Monarch*. With regard to the *Dutch*, *Strada* says very truly Lib. i. Bell. Belg. *Rara hodie admiramur machinamenta, quæ Belgica non invenerit, aut non absolverit*. Let the *French*, or indeed any other Nation of *Europe*, consider with Candor and Impartiality, whether any such Character can be applied to them; and then, whether they can, denominate the *Dutch* *Dunces*, and themselves *Beaux Esprits*. *Scaliger*, a Man of great Wit, and a very free Speaker, who was never suspected of delighting in Panegyrick, has exhausted all his Eloquence in praise of this heavy People, as follows:

*Ignorata*

*Ignorata tuæ referam miracula terræ,  
 Douſa, peregrinis non habitura fidem.  
 Omnia lanitium laſſat textrina Minervæ,  
 Lanigeros tamen hinc ſcimus abeſſe greges.  
 Non capiunt operas fabriles oppida veſtra:  
 Nulla fabris tamen hæc ligna miniſtrat humus.  
 Horrea triticeæ rumpunt hic frugis acervi:  
 Paſcuus hic tamen eſt non Cerealis ager.  
 Hic numerofa meri ſtipantur dolia cellis:  
 Quæ vineta colat, nulla putator habet.  
 Hic nulla, aut certe ſeges eſt rariffima lini:  
 Linifci tamen copia major ubi?  
 Hic mediis habitamus aquis: quis credere poſſit?  
 Et tamen hic nullæ, Douſa, bibuntur aquæ.*

It is very remarkable, that the ſame Qualities, which Writers near 2000 Years ago aſcribed to the *Batavi*, are the Characteriſticks of the *Dutch* their Deſcendents; Invention, Accuracy, Induſtry, Bravery, and Fidelity. On theſe Heads compare *Lucan*, lib. i. v. 426. *Cæſar paſſim*. *Tacit. Hiſt.* iv. cap. 13. & *alib. Servius ad Georg.* iii. *Virgil.* ver. 204. &c. with what modern foreign Writers ſay (for what a Nation ſays or thinks of itſelf is not to be regarded) as *Bentivoglio*, *Guicciardin* a noble *Florentine*, *Strada* in many Places, *Temple*, and above all the learned and ingenious *Barclay* in his *Icon Animar*.

Every body knows that the Invention of Printing is aſcribed to *Laurence Coſter*, a Citizen of *Haerlem*. This indeed is controverted by

by the City of *Mentz*; and those who would split the Difference between *Coster* and *Faustus*, and give each a Share in the Honour of the Invention, consent, that the former should pass for the Author of cutting in Wood, which was formerly used, and the latter of casting the Characters in Metal, as they are now. Having consulted Mr. *Mattaire*, the Author of the noble Work intituled, *Annales Typographici*, and many other excellent Pieces; that very learned Gentleman was of opinion (and his Opinion ought to be decisive in the Commonwealth of Letters) that *Mentz* had a just Right to the Honour of the  
\* Discovery.

The *Dutch* must however be acknowledged to have carried the Art greater Lengths than all other Nations. Their Letter-founders are now the best in the World; and not only *Mentz* and the Empire, but the best Presses of *Paris*, *Rome*, *London*, &c. have all their fine Types from them; as also the Characters of the Greek and Oriental Tongues, Hebrew, Syriack, Arabick, Persick, Chinese, &c.

They make also the best Paper. Of late we have made great Improvements in this Manu-

\* *October*, 1739. a Coin was found in some Ruins in the City of *Haerlem*, with this Inscription, *Typographia hic primum inventa circa ann. 1440*. M. *Hautzey*, an eminent Medalist of *Amsterdam*, has promised to write a Dissertation upon it. with which the People of *Haerlem* should have reason to be satisfied.

facture.



facture. Our Paper is almost as white, but not so well work'd up and so perfectly finish'd as the *Dutch*, in consequence of which it is more apt to sink.

There is greater Choice of Astronomical, Geometrical, and other Mathematical Instruments in *Holland*, than any where else in the World. Perhaps *Paris* is the next in this respect: Tho' within these twenty Years *London* has carried all these Things to great Perfection, with very fine and curious Additions of its own, which has been owing to the Pains of Mr. *Graham*, that excellent Mechanick, and other very ingenious Artizans, who have worked under the Direction of our Society. *Hamburg* has of late made great Advances in this Art, and serves the Northern Nations with those Instruments.

The *Dutch* are the most expert Founders in the World, and furnish most Countries with Ordnance. The *German*, *Spanish*, *Italian*, *African*, and *Turkish* Troops have their Arms principally from *Amsterdam*; as also their Cannon, Mortars, Powder, and Lead. And what is more, during the two last general Wars, *Lewis XIV.* who thought to carry every Art and Manufacture to its highest Perfection, and particularly all that appertained to the Art Military, was however obliged to the Gunsmiths and Founders of *Amsterdam*, the Metropolis of an Enemy, for Arms and Ammunition for his Troops.

The

The Fowling-pieces made at *Utrecht*, are all tried before the Magistrate, or one deputed by him; and on their being found sufficient proof, have a certain Mark stamp'd upon them. They are pretty long and light; the Iron and Brass Work handsomely carved, and are sold for 3*l.* a Piece: Such as have much Workmanship bestowed on them, cost more; but they are all equally true, and of proof.

Our Gunsmiths and Founders have carried their respective Arts great Lengths. The King of *Portugal*, in Gratitude for our sending a Fleet to defend him against the *Spaniards*, laid out great Sums of Money for Arms. As we have a considerable Advantage over the *Dutch* in our *Mediterranean* and *Levant* Passes, it were to be wished that our Taxes were reduced, or in the mean time that our Workmen would contrive to live lower, and work as cheap as the *Dutch*; in effect of which the whole Trade would fall into our Hands, and we should furnish the Armies of the *Grand Seignior*, the *Algerines*, *Tripoli*, the Emperor of *Morocco*, and the rest of the States on the *African* Coast, with Arms, Ordnance, Powder, and Lead, of our own Manufacture.

The *Dutch* excel most other Nations in *dying*, especially in their black and blue Colours. Their black Cloth is like Velvet to the Sight; and is capable of a deeper Dye, as the *Dutch* do not sheer their Cloth so close as the *English*.

They

They are expert at making Musical Instruments, especially Organs; and their Bell-founders are famous.

Their Musical Bells or Chimes are so sweet and melodious, that they have been imitated with good Success in *Flanders*, the Empire, and amongst ourselves.

Their Jewellers are at present so much excelled by the *English*, that there is scarce any Wares but *English* to be seen in their Shops: Even the Artizans of *Paris* in this Way are inferior to those of *London*. *English* Gold and Silver Watches are in prime Request, and vended all over *Europe*. The *Dutch* Watch-makers do nothing comparable to the fine Work of *London*. At *Augsburg* in *Germany* good Goldsmiths Wares are still made, with which that City furnishes the *Empire*, *Poland*, and almost all the *North*. But the Wares of *London* are now known in those Countries, and if they could be afforded cheaper (which is only to be done by lowering the Price of Workmanship by the Methods hinted at above) they would soon be preferred to all others in all the Markets of *Europe*. We have the Advantage of Sea Carriage, which costs a Trifle not worth mentioning; whereas the Wares of *Augsburg* must be carried over vast Tracts of Land to most Parts of *Germany*, and pay Custom at every City and Town they enter.

The *Dutch* have very ingenious Potters, as also Carvers and Sculptors; which every body must own,



own, who has seen and considered the Work in the Inside of the Stadhouse of *Amsterdam*, in which a great Felicity of Invention, as well as Correctness of Execution, is evident.

Statuary is cultivated with Success in *Holland*.

But Painting and Engraving have attained their final Maturity there. One would think it hardly possible to carry those beautiful Arts to a higher Degree of Perfection.

*London* and *Paris* are at this Day, as formerly, obliged to *Holland* for almost all their good Engravers. A greater Variety of good Prints are no where to be seen. Few Books are printed there without a fine Copper Plate for the Frontispiece. The *Dutch* have so great a Taste and Passion for good Prints and Cuts, that they do not care what Money they \* bestow upon them; so that  
many

\* The Generality of the Gentry have splendid Libraries, Cabinets of Rarities, and good Collections of Pictures, Prints, Statues, and Coins. They also delight in Gardens on their Canals, with Pleasure-houses in them. The Ladies take care to have their Tea-tables, Cabinets, and even the Walls of their Rooms plentifully embellished with China, which last Article is perhaps the only one wherein the *Dutch* can be charged with Extravagance.

The *French* Nobility expend the greatest Part of their Incomes in gilt Coaches, numerous Liveries, fine Clothes, Gaming, Assemblies, and Balls. The more pious of them are always sending Provisions of all Sorts, Clothes, Linen, Medicines, &c. to the Hospitals and Convents, amongst which last the *Capuchins*, who are in great Esteem for their Love of Poverty, and not intermeddling with other People's Affairs, are not forgot. The *French* Nobility and Gentry live in Cities, the proper Places for making a Figure; and their Houses in the Country are gone to decay.

The

many Books are thrown into the Form of Folios or Quartos, only for the sake of adorning them with Copper Plates.

The *English* are beginning to come into this fine Taste. *Hogarth's* Burlesques have been very well received for several Years past by a great Part of the Nation; and the Heads of the Kings, Queens, and most eminent Personages of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, taken from original Paintings and other authentick Monuments, with admirable Judgment and Art, shew how agreeable farther Improvements of that kind would be. But hitherto the ingenious Engraver is no where in so great Esteem as in the United Provinces.

The same may be said of the Painter. There is not an ordinary Burgher's House, that is not plentifully furnished with such good Pictures, as would adorn the Houses of the Gentry in other Countries. The *Dutch* excel in every part of this noble Art: In Flower, Fruit, and Fish-pieces; Insects, and Flies, which have actually deceived Spiders; Ships, the Sea, Storms, and Shipwrecks; the Seasons, and particularly the Winter, and the Diversions upon the Ice; Tables spread with a

The *Italians* employ themselves in building superb Palaces, and making Gardens, and adorning them with Pictures, Statues, Bustos, Vases, antique Coins, Medals, and other Rarities. The *Germans* are charmed with Musæums, as also with the Luxuries and Refinements of the two last mentioned Nations. But as for the *Britons*, they content themselves with a moderate Share of all these fine Things, and convenient Houses in Town and Country, with Gardens, Stables, and good House-keeping, are what they have most at Heart.

*Dutch*

*Dutch* Dinner of Fish, Hung-beef, Butter, Cheefe, Grapes, other Fruits, and a Glas of Wine; burlesque Pieces; as a jovial Company at their Cups, a Country Wedding, a Quaker's Meeting; Night-pieces, in which they have followed *Bassin*, but are now Models for others to imitate. None, in my Opinion, have come up to them in Drapery. Some have thought, that the *Dutch* Schools have copied Nature and the Humours and Foibles of Men with great Success, but that they have failed in the Grand and Sublime of Painting. It must however be owned, that none have exceeded them in Battle-pieces, and very few in Portraits and Histories. If their Works have any Fault, it is perhaps in their being too much laboured. The minutest Part of their Paintings is as much finished as the principal Figure; whereas other Masters usually exhaust their whole Art and Genius on the principal Figure, leaving the rest neglected and unfinished. The *Dutch* Colouring in general is very beautiful, and the Painting so smooth, that it will bear a very near View. At the Auctions, which are very numerous here, good Bargains of Books and Pictures may be picked up, for furnishing an House or Library.

*Holland* has produced many eminent Men in the Sciences and Languages, as well as in the Arts. No Country has produced such Numbers of able Philologers, particularly in the *Greek*, *Hebrew*, *Syriac*, and *Oriental* Tongues.

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I do



I do not know, whether the *Hague* has produced any Men of the first Rank in the Commonwealth of Letters; but its Neighbourhood has. An ERASMUS of *Rotterdam*, a GROTIUS of *Delft*, and a BOERHAAVE of *Leyden*, form a Triumvirate not to be excelled perhaps by three Persons of any other Nation in the World.

To the first the whole Commonwealth of Letters is indebted for its Re-establishment, and a new *Æra* of Glory. *Erasmus* cut out new Canals for the rich Vein of good Sense, which began to appear in his Time, to flow in. He rescued the Sciences out of the Barbarity and Obscurity, with which the Schools had so long involved and debased them, and shewed them in so amiable and shining a Light, as brought over Princes, Popes, Kings, Emperors, and even the School-men themselves, to love, encourage, and cultivate them. All Ranks, whole Nations, rejoiced in the new Light. The Reformation owed its Birth and Advancement to his incomparable Writings; and his inimitable Wit and good Sense did more hurt, and gave a deeper Wound, to the See of *Rome*, than all the Edicts of the Protestant Powers, or the numerous Volumes wrote by their Divines. With respect to his Religion, about which there has been such long and warm Contests between the Roman Catholicks and Protestants, each challenging him for their own, the Character that *Grotius* gives *Thuanus*, may with no less Justice be applied to *Erasmus*. *Grotius* used  
to

to say, That *Thuanus* was a Roman Catholick ; but with thirty Exceptions. *Thuanum Pontificium esse, sed cum triginta exceptionibus.* The Dawning of Learning in *England* particularly is to be dated from that great Man's coming over in 1497. when he read Lectures at *Cambridge*. It would not have been too assuming, if *Erasmus* had made his Country's Motto his own, *Lux in tenebris.*

GROTIUS did honour not only to his Country, but to human Nature. He was of a good Family, and first Syndick of *Rotterdam*. No body hitherto has taken upon him to pronounce, whether he was the greater Lawyer, Historian, or Divine ; Grammarian, Linguist, or Poet ; sacred and profane Critick, or Statesman. His Commentaries on the Holy Scriptures are a Standard to the Learned, and so noble, that those, who have since commented on the divine Writings, have only either copied him, or at most can only be considered as Supplements to him. The Misfortunes of the Times, and the Party he espoused, occasioned his being somewhat roughly used in his own Country ; but his Exile redounded highly to his Honour, by affording him a more ample Theatre to appear upon. Whilst he was in *France*, he was consulted by the most learned Men of that Nation, as the Oracle of Science and Letters. *Lewis XIII.* and his Court, honoured him highly ; and *Christina*, that great Queen of *Sweden*, invited him to *Stockholm*, and sent him on splendid Embassies to the greatest

Courts of *Europe*. His Letters, which treat chiefly of Criticism and the *Belles Lettres*, and his Poems, are highly esteemed by all Men of Sense. His Treatise *De jure belli & pacis*, and sacred Commentaries were principally composed and published at *Paris*; which perhaps subjected the incomparable Author to some Restrictions. In the first of those great Works he inclines perhaps more in favour of Monarchy, than one would expect from a Native of a free Commonwealth: And it is certain, that Writers even in limited Monarchies do not treat the Prerogative of the Crown with so much Decency and Tenderneſs, as *Grotius*. He shewed the same Respect to the Government of the Church, as to that of the State, under which he then lived. In his Commentaries he had many fair Opportunities of displaying his vast Erudition and critical Talent in Controversy, which perhaps he would not have let slip, had he wrote in a Protestant State. It must however be owned, that *Grotius* was very moderate in Points of Religion.

Great Men are never alone: Banishments, Prisons, and Deserts are Places of Exercise, and as busy Scenes to them, as any other. *Grotius* wrote the History of his Country during his Confinement in *Louvestein* Castle. He endeavours to prove \* its Freedom and Independence in all Ages, not excepting the Time, when the *Franks*

\* Particularly in his Book *De antiquitate reipub. Bataviae.*  
enlarged



enlarged their Kingdom in those Parts. And indeed there is sufficient Ground in History to say, that they were rather Allies than Subjects to the *Romans*; but that they preserved their Liberty after the Declension of the *Roman* Empire, is not so clear. But this was *Grotius's* Task, who seems to have undertaken this Work with the View of Setting the Power of the Commonwealth above that of its Counts and Statholders, by the last of whom he conceived himself to have been injured. And thus the same *Grotius*, who at one time praises the Power of a single Person, at another destroys it: An Instance that the greatest of Men are not exempt from Weakness and Imperfection. Another Instance of the like Nature some think his attempting a little before his Death to reconcile all Parties in Religion.

The last § Thing which Dr. BOERHAAVE did, in paying his Debt to Nature, effectually convinced the World, that extraordinary Man had not carried the Art of Medicine to that Perfection generally believed, and which all Men desire. About the Beginning of this Century the famous PITCAIRN, in effect of a perfect Knowledge of the new Philosophy, made great Discoveries, and gave noble Hints, which have been improved upon, and wrought up into Systems by others. The unaccountable Principles and Irregularities of that able Physician's Life have robbed him in a great measure of the

§ It is said that he mistook his own Case.

Glory of his own Discoveries. His Scholar, and, I think, Successor at *Leyden*, Dr. *Boerhaave*, built upon his Foundation, and inherited all his Learning, but nothing else; for the latter was a temperate, religious Man. If his Modesty would have permitted him, he might have applied the Saying of *Dupuy*,\* Professor at *Louvain*, *Virtutem publicè doceo*, to himself. Dr. *Boerhaave*, far from disbelieving, never mentioned, the Supreme Being, but with Intent to make his Scholars religious, at the same time that he made them knowing and learned; and he usually concluded his Letters (on being consulted) with a short Prayer, that the Divine Blessing might attend his Endeavours.

I have observed in another Place, that the Doctor told me, the Physicians of *Great Britain* made too much use of the Bark in the Case of Agues; but a Medicine, that may be proper and successful in some Climates and Constitutions, may not be so in others. Physicians of different Countries therefore ought to be moderate in their Censures of each other. Both Theory and Practice have demonstrated the Bark to be a sovereign Remedy for many Constitutions in the Islands of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and I have known it to have the same Effect in several Parts of the

\* DUPUY was Scholar and Successor of *Lipfius*, as Professor of Eloquence at *Louvain*. His greatest Care was to form the Manners of his Disciples, and to make their Studies subservient to the Exercise of Virtue. In one of his Letters he says, *Nonnullos etiam hæc nova industria mea cruciabit, quod ad virtutem literas transferam.*

Continent, tho' perhaps it is not so in all, or most Parts of it. The Doctor's *Rationale* of Agues, or intermitting Fevers, is perfectly new, but so subtle, as not to be easily understood; which may justly be referred to the great Difficulty of accounting for the stated Intermissions and Returns of the Fits, rather than to any Perplexity in the Solver, who certainly had as clear an Head as any Man living.

We were all surprized to find M. *Schultens*, Professor of *Hebrew* and *Oriental* Languages, in the Rostrum, to pronounce Dr. *Boerhaave's* Funeral Oration. That Office should no doubt have been assigned to one of his Collegues of the Profession, by whom the illustrious deceased was both beloved and honoured. At the same time that they had done Justice to his personal Character, they would not have failed to have given us an ample Account of his Discoveries, his Method of Practice and Teaching, and perhaps a good Analysis of the immortal Works he has left behind him. The Curators of the University were therefore very much out in their Choice of the Orator, who, if I remember, expressed his own Surprize, that they should pitch upon him, as *he understood neither Pharmacy, Botany, Chymistry, &c.* nor any Thing in the Doctor's Way.

He has had no Successor, nor is like to have any. Some of the Curators waited upon him in his last Illness, and asked whom he thought proper to succeed him. He answered, that he did



not think any Successor necessary; the University having very able Men at present, who might divide his Offices amongst them; which has accordingly been done.

He seemed to have a Design to introduce green instead of dry'd Herbs in the Practice of Medicine; being of opinion, that there was more Virtue in Herbs when they had their Juices in them, and were in their Prime, than when decayed or wither'd. He was a great Admirer of Simples, and did not send his Patients much to the Apothecaries Shops; so that he was no less an easy and pleasant, than successful Physician. Those who would not venture to eat an Apple, Cherry, or Goosberry in the Morning, or an Hour or two before Dinner, fell into such Excesses that Way, on the Doctor's declaring it not only innocent, but wholsom and medicinal, that one or two of them died. The first Edition of his *Chymistry* almost injured his Reputation; but it was surreptitious; and so he informed the Publick. It had however this good Effect: it obliged the Doctor to publish a genuine Treatise on that Subject, of which every Copy is subscribed with his own Hand-writing. Dr. *Boerhaave* was a very plain Man, and dressed like a Country Farmer; so that his Outside had nothing to recommend him to the Regard of the Publick. He had however a good House; but the Room where he received his Patients at stated Hours, was bad enough: yet there appeared no Pride

nor

nor Affectation in this Simplicity. He was agreeable in Conversation, and had *Burman*, the Wit of the University, intirely at Command. He had only to say, *Tace, Petre*, when the latter overflow'd, and *Peter* obey'd. He died worth about a Million of Florins, or near 100,000 l. which Sum those, who interest themselves for his Reputation, could have wished less by at least one half. But absolute Perfection is not to be found amongst Men: the greatest of them have their Foibles. As he was Professor, he had a Florin, or twenty Pence for his Advice. He was charmed with the Generosity of the *English*. The other Physicians of the Country have no more than Six-pence a Visit, so that the poorest Person needs not want the Assistance of the greatest Doctor. This is a wise and charitable Regulation of the States, with which the Physicians themselves are satisfied: For as those of other Countries are often without Employment, being only called in to visit the rich, these have constant Business every Day in the Year. Besides, by this means the sick are much better taken care of, their Physician being with them once, and sometimes twice every Day. In other Countries Patients are not waited upon so often; perhaps twice or thrice a Week; so that they may die in the Intervals, or be very much changed for the worse for Want of Help; and they cannot well afford to pay for more frequent Visits.

The

The Doctor's Library, which, at least, might have been left to the University, was sold by Auction at *Leyden*. Some, who would not take upon them to mention such a Legacy to the Doctor himself, founded his Widow and Daughter about making it a Present; but they almost fell into Fits, on only hearing such a Proposal.

The United Provinces have produced many ingenious Natural Philosophers.

The late M. LEUWENHOEK, a Burgher of *Delft*, was visited by the curious who passed thro' that City. He made those admirable Microscopes, by the means of which a Multitude of Things invisible to the Eye are to be seen; so that it may be questioned, whether they gave those who tried them, at first most Astonishment or Pleasure.

NEUENTEYT'S Works are translated into *English*. He is a profound and pious Philosopher.

SWAMMERDAM deserves to be consider'd in the same Light. His Treatise *De respiratione* is not founded on Conjecture and Speculation, but intirely on his own Experiments, which he was always ready to shew those who visited him. His fine Collection of Insects brought from different Countries, was no less entertaining to the curious.

GLAUBER was an eminent Chymist, whose Laboratory was well worth seeing. He was also of *Amsterdam*.

The



The Illustrious Mr. BOYLE, who corresponded with the most eminent Philosophers and other learned Men of *Europe*, says, that *Glauber* had *hit on several Ways, by which he made Gold once*, and could not do it again. That great *English* Philosopher, Dr. *Boerhaave*, the Duke of *Orleans*, late Regent of *France*, and indeed all the most eminent Chymists and Naturalists of these latter Ages seem to have been firmly persuaded of the Possibility of the Philosopher's Stone. Their Grounds for this Belief are exceedingly rational: For in the Course of various Experiments they have come very near a perfect Transmutation of Metal into Gold, and have besides actually often transmuted other Metals; which seems no less wonderful than the other. These Facts have convinced them, that they cannot rationally refuse their Assent to the Possibility of farther Discoveries. And Mr. Boyle in a Treatise intituled, \* *Certain Physiological Essays, &c.* amongst a Variety of surprizing Experiments of his own, and of his learned foreign Correspondents, relates a successful one of a *Dutch* Gentleman, one Dr. K. *A Person*, says he, *exceeding far from the Custom, and, in this Particular, from the Temptation of telling Untruths.*

The greatest Ornament of *Amsterdam*, which City has in all Times cherished the Sciences so much, was the late celebrated Dr. RUIJSH. His vast Collections in Anatomy, and Fœtus's of all

\* In Quarto, London, 1661.

Growths,

Growths, have given wonderful Satisfaction; and particularly those of Fishes, Flies, and Insects, of which perfect Draughts have been taken under his own Inspection with singular Art, and exactly coloured, gilt, &c. after Nature.

Globes of extraordinary Magnitude, Workmanship, and Beauty, are to be seen at all times in *Amsterdam*. That made by *Vingbomes* was seven Feet Diameter, and valued at 1600 l. Sterling. The Brass Meridian only cost 100 l. The Paste-boards of these Globes are exquisitely well painted. The two Globes lately made by M. MUSCHENBROEK, under the Direction of his Brother the Professor, are a great Curiosity. It is a pity they are not larger: for Machines of this kind made to shew the Motions of the Planets, or the Solar System, cannot be too large. Globes resemble Maps, which often, thro' the Smallness of the Scale, give very imperfect Notions of the Countries they are intended to represent. The *Dutch* in particular, one would think, should make large Globes, in order to have the Spot they inhabit visible to them.

Formerly two Globes stood in one of the Chambers of the State, in order, I suppose, for the Deputies to consult them occasionally for the Longitudes, Latitudes, Bearings, Distance, Course, &c. of Seas, Coasts, and Countries. For what other Use they could have, I know not: The Republick desires only to preserve what she has; and I dare say, not one of their High  
Migh-

Mightineſſes ever regretted the narrow Extent of their Territory.

The Republick has not wanted able Hiſtorians. BRANDT's Hiſtory of the Reformation of the *Low Countries* is a Piece ſo much admired, that one of the Penſionaries uſed to ſay, the *Dutch* Language deſerved to be learned by Foreigners, if it were only for the Pleaſure of reading that Hiſtorian.

VAN LOON has publiſhed a large Work, and MIERIS, a Painter of *Leyden*, another, on the Metallick Hiſtory of the Republick. *Van Loon's* is a very noble Piece. BIZOT had done one in *French*, but brought it down no lower than King *William*. Some Medals have eſcaped *Loon*, notwithſtanding his Enquiries; but we ſhall not ſupply that Defect. Perhaps he did not think them of a Nature to be publiſhed.

*Bizot* was of the Academy of Sciences at *Paris*, and therefore could not do Juſtice to his Subject, eſpecially at the Time he compoſed his Work.

M. BYNKERSHOEK, whom we have had frequent Occaſion to mention, is the moſt eminent political Writer of the Republick. He was born at *Middleburg* in 1673. had his Education at the Univerſity of *Franeker*, where he ſtudied Divinity, but afterwards took to the Law. The States of *Zealand* conferred the Dignity of Counſellor of the Great Council upon him, and he is  
at



at present Prefident of the Sovereign Court of *Holland, West Friesland, and Zealand.*

It is not surprizing, that the *English* have had no Metallick History. As they do not affect striking Medals so much as some of their Neighbours, an History of that kind would make but a poor Figure amongst them: And indeed they seem to despise these Things.

METTEREN and AITZEMA are two distinguished Historians and political Writers of the Commonwealth, and both write in *Dutch*. *Aitzema* was a Knight of *Friesland*, and Resident at the *Hague* for the *Hanse* Towns. He is a candid and exact Writer.

We shall not touch upon the Historians of older Date, and such as wrote in *Latin*, because that would carry us too far: For the same Reason we pass over the numerous Grammarians and Commentators upon the *Classicks*.

The *Dutch* are believed to have the ablest Civilians in *Europe*; and it is certain, that there is no University in *Europe*, where the Civil Law is taught with so much Dignity as at *Leyden* and *Utrecht*. VINNIUS and VOET, the first in particular upon the *Institutes*, and the latter on the *Pandects*, are, I think, the Standards of that Law. It is a pity the Generality of their Law Writers are so prolix. What has been long objected to the Gentlemen of the Bar in general, may be well applied to them: They overwhelm us with a Deluge of Words, and  
make

make us lose Sight of the main Point by the Multiplicity with which they surround it.

But perhaps the same Imputation will lie with full as much Reason against the *Dutch* Divines, the Prolixity of whose Writings there is no Degree of Patience capable of supporting. They will write a Volume of a good Size on an *Hebrew* Word, and another, by way of Supplement, on the Pronunciation of that Word; so that the Reader is amazed to see so small a Matter swell to so huge a Bulk. I would not however urge this too far against so worthy a Body of Men. It is certain, that if a profound Knowledge of the Originals of the Bible, and other learned Languages; if being well read in the best Commentators and sacred Criticks, a good Taste of Ecclesiastical History and Controversies, joined with a laborious Discharge of the pastoral Function, be essential Qualities in forming good Clergymen, there are few Churches in the World better provided with able Ministers than that of *Holland*.

Poets are as numerous here as elsewhere. The *Belgick* Bards however sing in higher Keys than most others. They will throw you off *Latin*, *Greek*, and *Hebrew* Verses as fast as one can count Peas. *Barleus*, *Francius*, and *Baudius* are much esteemed. The *Latin* Stile of the last is admirable: and indeed few of the *Dutch* Writers are defective in that Point, when they treat Subjects that are capable of Stile. Modern  
Topicks

Topicks are not susceptible of any great Purity of Language, from the many thousand Things, and Words in consequence, that have been introduced since the Time of *Cæsar* and *Tully*.

The favourite modern Writer of the *Latin* here, and amongst other learned Nations, is *BUCHANAN*, who is the only Author perhaps of the Moderns, whose Works, whether in Prose or Verse, come up to the Purity of the *Augustan* Age.

The extreme Difficulty of excelling in a dead Language has made this discerning People begin to desist from exercising their Youth in composing *Latin* Verses, being desirous that they should be taught rather to speak good Sense in Prose, than Nonsense in Verse. The Studies of Logick and Rhetorick are now preferred; by which young Persons are taught to reason justly, and to express themselves well in Publick. By this Institution they propose to render their Children useful and ornamental to their Country.

This is not because good Poets have not due Regard paid them here. The great Pensionary *Cotts*, who wrote in, and improved, his own Language, deserves all the Praises his Countrymen have bestowed upon him. Correct, copious, affecting; and for his Delicacy, and the Harmony of his Verses, he is justly enough stiled the *Dutch* *OVID*.

*VANDER GOES* was a Poet of a rich and sublime Genius. His Poem on the *Y*, a small River,



River that flows into *Amsterdam*, and fills the Canals of that great City, is a very noble Piece. After what this Bard has sung on the *X*, and *Denham* on the *Thames*, those Rivers need not envy the *Tiber* his Poets.

The *Tragick* Writers of the *Dutch* have hitherto been wretched; not that they want Invention, or do not make a proper Choice of Subjects for their Pieces; but they have no Correctness, and have neglected to consult *Aristotle* and the *French* Criticks, from the Study of whom, as well as the Strength of her own Genius before, the *Englisk* Muse has produced a Set of the noblest Dramatick Pieces in Being. The Genius of the *Dutch* labours under a double Unhappiness in this respect: It is as incapable of acting, as writing Tragedies. But they make some amends for this Defect in Comedy, which they act to the Life; provided however, that the Sentiments and Lines are somewhat rough, and not over fine spun. *Don Quixote* and the Windmills is a favourite Piece. A Play is no Play to them, if it does not excite continual Laughter. For which reason the delicate *Moliere* is not of the Number of the Writers they translate for the Theatres. The noble Simplicity of *Corneille* has also excluded that great *Tragick* Poet. The *Dutch* may however plead for themselves their sedentary Life, and close Application to Business during the whole Day, which require, that their Diversions should be very lively, and not ob-

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lige

lige them to any great Attention of Mind, which they go to the Theatre to unbend, and not to continue upon the Stretch. They do not condemn those, who consider the Theatre as a School of Morality, the Number of whom perhaps is not great; but they think the Pulpits want no such Supplement, from whence every Week the best Lessons are given with sacred Authority, and without any corrupt Mixture.

One M. ROTGANS has composed an *Epick* Poem on King *William*. Those who have perused it, affirm, that the Poet is equal to his Subject; in which they give a great Idea of his Performance.

But the Bard, who at present entertains the Publick most, is one POOTS, a plain Peasant, who lives near *Delft*. He has had no Education, little or no Reading, and understands no Language but his own; so that it may be truly said of him, what must be the distinguishing Characteristick of all Poets, that he was born one. Thus *Greece* of old had its *Homer*, *Hesiod*, &c. *France* its *Racan*, *England* its *Shakespear*, and *Scotland* its *Ramsay*.

It will not be amiss to say something here upon the *Dutch* Language, especially to remove a national Error, or rather Prejudice, entertained against it.

Of

Of the DUTCH LANGUAGE.

**T**HE *British* Nation are very apt to censure and deride this Language, without knowing, or at least considering, that the Language themselves speak, is no other than the *Low Dutch*. If we have softened a few of the *Dutch* Terms, by the Refinement of our own, and naturalizing Abundance from the *Latin* and *French*, the Difference is not so great however, as to make us lose Sight intirely of that upon which it is founded, and which is certainly our Mother Tongue. To convince the Reader of this, we have only to give a Specimen of the *Low Dutch* and *English* together, for which the following may serve.

*Wy heb geseen een Schip op de See daerin*

We have seen one Ship upon the Sea wherein was ten Mensch ende seven Kinderen. Het was was ten Men and seven Children. It was onder vol Saile ; de Wind was goodt ; de Sonn under full Sail ; the Wind was good ; the Sun sijnst klaar op de Water. Dese Menn inviteerd ons in de Schip te come, ende tracturde ons well. us into the Ship to come, and treated us well. Sittende op de Deck, we had Musyc, dranke een Sitting upon the Deck, we had Musick, drank one



*Glasse o' goode Wyn, Brandywyn, Beer. Wy woud  
 Glafs of good Wine, Brandy, Beer. We would  
 niet drink Water, as wy had so right goode Wyn,  
 not drink Water, as we had so right good Wine,  
 &c. Wy eet een Salaad, greene Herbe, Apple,  
 &c. We eat a Sallad, green Herbs, Apples,  
 Peerres, Vis, Fles, white Brood ende Buter. Achter  
 Pears, Fish, Flefh, white Bread and Butter. After  
 alle come de Tee, Coffee, Chacolade. In de Cam-  
 all came the Tea, Coffee, Chocolate. In the Cham-  
 bre daer was Tafle, Vuir, twee Bede, whaerin wy  
 ber there was Table, Fire, two Beds, wherein we  
 slapt. Hevende bedankt de Scheper, wy set Voot op  
 slept. Having thank'd the Skipper, we set Foot on  
 Engelse Land. Engeland is een groot Koninkrick:  
 English Land. England is a great Kingdom:  
 De Landt vrughtbarigh in Whet, de Natic rick,  
 The Land fruit-bearing in Wheat, the Nation rich,  
 sterck. De Koning, die is niet oud, heb twee Sons,  
 strong. The King, who is not old, hath two Sons,  
 ende fiff Doughtere. Hy is genoumd George II.  
 and five Daughters. He is named George II.  
 De Koninginn is dood. Men reckonnerde aught Mil-  
 The Queen is dead. Men reckon eight Mil-  
 lion in Engeland, ende seven hunderd dousand in  
 lion in England, and seven hundred thousand in  
 \* Lunden, twee honderd ende fiftich dousand in  
 \* London, two hundred and fifty thousand in  
 Amsterdam,*

\* Modern Writers have departed from the true Spelling  
 of *England* and *London*; so that, it is probable, we are ob-  
 liged to the *Dutch* for retaining the original Orthography.  
 And

Amsterdam, *ende vijf honderd, of op de meeste, Amsterdam, and five hundred, or upon the most, ses honderd dousand in Parys. Lunden is de six hundred thousand in Paris. London is the grootste Platz in de Wereld. Is het niet wonderlik, greatest Place in the World. Is it not wonderful, dat de voorstandiete Engelse sou'd niet well that the understanding English should not well kenne haer Vorfaders, ofte Moeder Taal, ende know their Forefathers, or Mother Tongue, and de Landt waeruyt zey camt? De Engelse ende the Land whereout they came? The English and de Neder of Laghe Duytsh (zyn) de same Volk the Nether or Low Dutch (are) the same Folk ende same Natic. and same Nation.*

The Consideration of this Affinity, or rather Sameness of Language, probably gave the ingenious Mr. *Howell* Occasion to say, “ That take an *Englishman cap a pied*, from Head to And indeed our Antiquaries in doubtful Cases cannot do better than to have recourse to the *Dutch*. The learned *Spelman* would perhaps have been more clear and correct in the Derivations of a great Number of modern *English* Words, had he traced them first from the *Low Dutch*, and the *Low Dutch* from the *Saxon* or *German*, which are now the same. I shall only add, that this Language is very expressive, and so proper for Philosophical Subjects, that an eminent Professor of *Utrecht* has lately wrote a compleat Treatise of Physicks in it. This cannot surprize those, who consider, that this Language abounds with Compounds, a Property which renders the *Greek* Tongue the most comprehensive in the World. It is true the Author is sometimes obliged to invent Terms : But as long as Men have the Privilege to invent Things, so long must they be allowed also to invent Names, by which to express them.

“Foot, every Member he hath is *Dutch*.” And in reality *England* was not peopled directly from *Saxony*, nor the small District of it called *Engeland*. Some of our best Writers on this Head perhaps express themselves with Ambiguity, and not with the Exactness that might be expected from them.

The peopling of *England* with these foreign Colonies was undoubtedly in this Manner. Numbers of the *Saxons* (including the People of *Engeland*) came down from the North of *Germany* at different Times into the *Low Countries*, and particularly *Holland* and *Zealand*, upon which they border’d. After having made some Settlements, and continued in them for some Time, they passed over into the South Part of *Britain*, with a Mixture, no doubt, of the Natives of the Provinces from whence they set out, the Sea being narrow there. During their Abode in those Provinces, themselves and their Children insensibly fell into the *Low Dutch* Dialect (which indeed did not essentially differ from their own) and brought it over with them. They however still retained the Names of their Nation and District, those of *Saxons* and *Engles*. The first in Process of Time had the good Fortune to parcel the Country out into seven distinct *Saxon* Kingdoms; and the latter, tho’ no very considerable Part of their own Country, had the Honour to unite those Kingdoms into one under *EGBERT*, one of their Descendants, about the



the Year 800. He was the first sole Monarch, and by an Edict ordered the whole Kingdom to be called *Engeland*.

Sir *William Temple* says, that Part of the *Saxons*, who conquer'd *England*, came from *Friesland*; which is very probable, as that Province lies nearer *Saxony*, than either of the other two Maritime Provinces, *Holland* and *Zea-land*. But as the Passage into *England* is much nearer from the Coasts of the last two Provinces, we may reasonably believe, that the People chose the shortest Cut in those early Times of Navigation.

Thus the Reason is manifest, why the *Low Dutch*, properly so called, is spoken at this Day in *England* preferably to the *Saxon*, the *High Dutch* or *German*. The *German* is the Mother Tongue, but had as many Dialects, as *Germany* had different Nations, or People, of which the *Saxons* and *Low Dutch* were amongst the most considerable, and border'd upon each other. And the former having settled for some Time amongst the latter, and at length set out from their Coasts for *England*, they carried thither along with them the Language, or rather Dialect of the People amongst whom they had last inhabited. As the *Saxon* was only a Dialect of the *German*, so the *English* was no more than a Sub-dialect of the *Saxon*. Some Learned Men indeed have pretended to make Distinctions between the old *English* Words, and the *Saxon*;

but there must be more of Conjecture than Certainty in them. In the Colony of *Georgia*, and the other Settlements in *America*, it will be very difficult, seven or eight hundred Years hence, to assign to each Person, from his Language, the particular County of *Old England*, from which his Ancestors came. As *Saxony* was anciently of great Extent, there is reason to believe, that *Engeland* bore no greater Proportion to it, than perhaps one County of *England* bears to the whole.

I come now to speak of the *Dutch* Coin.

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### Of the DUTCH COIN.

WE must observe in general, that all foreign Species go at a very low Rate in *Holland*. The *English*, *Spaniards*, and *French* have reason not to be pleased with this; for they are obliged to exchange their pure Gold and Silver for the *Dutch* base Metal, and that at a considerable Discount. For instance, we lose 4 *d.* in a Crown, 2 *d.* in half a Crown, and 1 *d.* in a Shilling. On these Terms we have no occasion to carry over any Coin but our own, which is as well known and as current in *Holland* as the *Dutch*. Most other foreign Species, and especially Gold, is not received till it is first sent to the *Lombard House* to be weighed, in which Case one is sure to be a Loser.

It is no hard Matter to understand the Current Coin of *Holland*.

The *Doit* is a Copper Coin, almost as large as our Farthing: eight of them go for a *Stiver*.

The Silver Coin is a *Stiver*, or Penny, like our small Silver Pennies. It has a Bundle of seven Rods bound together on one Side, and the Name of the respective Province on the Reverse; as *Hollandia*, *Zelandia*, *Geldria*, &c. The Princes and Free Cities of the *Rhine* having recoined their  
their



their Penies in 1737. the *Dutch* did the same the Year following.

Two *Stivers* make a *Dubliky*. This is reckoned the purest Coin the *Dutch* have, tho' in my Opinion it is not to be bragg'd of.

The *Sestebalf* answers to our Sixpence, but is however much larger, tho' never the better for that. It goes for five *Stivers* and a half.

The *GOODE SKELLING* is worth six *Stivers*, and is distinguished from the former Piece only by the Bundle of Rods, which being represented small, are mistaken for a *Star*. On the one Side is a Champion on Horseback at full Speed, with this Legend, *Vigilate & orate*. The Reverse is the Arms of the particular Province where coined.

The *Gilder* or *Florin* is the Piece best known. The *German Florin* is worth two of them. The *Dutch* reckon Sums by them, as we do by Pounds, and the *French* by *Livres*; tho' neither we nor the *French* have any particular Species for these two last Sums. The *Gilder* is twenty *Stivers*. On one Side is the Figure of a Man *a l'antique*, leaning upon the Bible with his Left Hand, and holding a Spear with his Right. On the Exergue of the Book are \* these Words, *Hac nitimur*, and

\* It is not easy to reconcile the Propriety of this Legend as they are placed upon the Coin. I have seen the same Stamp on a *German* Piece of Money, with these apter Words, *Quo jus et gloria ducunt*. Upon some of their old Coins the *Dutch* had these Words, *Imperator maris est terræ Dominus*. But this lofty Motto was soon changed for less offensive ones.

on that of the Spear, *Hanc tuemur*. The Sense would be more perfect, if the two last Words were made to refer to the Bible, and the first to the defensive Weapon. I have sometimes suspected that these Mottos were misplaced; but that cannot well be supposed of a Thing of this Nature, so that it is more probable that I may err in respect to the Coin. On the Reverse is a Lion rampant, holding a Sword in one Hand, and the Bundle of Rods in the other, as if ready to strike such as should offer to unbind the Rods. When extraordinary Exactness is not necessary, 10 *Gilders* are commonly reckoned as a Pound Sterling, 100 as 10 *l.* 1000 as 100 *l.* 1,000,000 as 100,000 *l.* and so on. The *Dutch* sometimes reckon by Tons of Gold. A Ton is 100,000 *Gilders*, or 10,000 *l.*

There are several other Silver Pieces current in *Holland*, of which some are worn so bare, that the *Dutch* themselves are sometimes at a Loss to know them. Two and three *Gilder* Pieces are very rare; but the *Dollars*, which go for 28 *Stivers*, are more common.

The only Gold Coin the *Dutch* have of their own, is the *Ducat*: it is worth five *Gilders* five *Stivers*, and answers to our Half Guinea.

None of the *Dutch* Coin, and little of other Countries is milled, so that it is both exceedingly disfigured and diminished, not by filing, but large Pieces clipt off the Sides. These and many other  
of

of the like Practices are laid to the Charge of the Jews or *Smouces*, as they are called by way of Contempt: But perhaps there are many *Smouces* of this kind, that neither wear the Beard, nor frequent the Synagogue.

We have said above that our Shilling passes for eleven *Stivers*, our Half Crown for 28, our Crown for 56, and our Guinea commonly for 11 *Gilders* 11 *Stivers*.

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## C H A P. VII.

NEIGHBOURHOOD *of the Hague.*

**T**HIS fine Place is surrounded on all Sides with delightful Walks, Villages, Palaces, and every Thing else most beautiful in Art or Nature, to a particular Description of which we now proceed. We shall begin with *Scheveling*, a Place usually first visited by the curious Traveller, not so much on its own Account, as on that of the celebrated Road that leads to it, and the Prospect of the Sea.

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*Village*

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*Village of SCHEVELING.*

THE Road that leads to it is a low, straight, paved Walk, cut thro' the Downs or sandy Hills at infinite Expence. It is adorned on each Side with double Rows of Trees, interspersed with Yews cut in Pyramids. Sir *William Temple* admired the cutting of this Road so much, that he said it was a Work worthy of the *ancient Romans*: But this Compliment is strained and hyperbolical; for the Roads or Causeways of the *Romans* were vast and stupendous Works, of many hundred Miles in Extent from one End of a Country to another. The *Scheveling Way* is however very pretty.

The Way thither is by the *Scheveling Gate*, or Draw-bridge, where Waggon, Chaises, or Coaches are always to be hired at a few Minutes Warning; but they do not deserve the Pleasure of so charming a Walk, that could have so wretched a Taste, as to go to *Scheveling* in any of those Carriages.

About a Quarter of a Mile from this Gate is the fine one that opens into the Road, at which all Passengers, except the Fishermen of *Scheveling*, pay a small \* Tax, towards keeping the Way

\* This Tax amounts to about 4000 Guilders, or 400 l. a Year.

in repair. Between the two Gates is a little running Rivulet, that makes a murmuring Noise; a Thing, which would not be regarded in other Countries, but in this is a great Rarity. On the left hand are two handsom Houses. The first has good Paintings in *Fresco*, and several moral Mottos upon it. The other is just at the Gate, and is at present inhabited by Count *Golofkin*, the *Russian* Ambassador.

On entering the Walk, the Steeple of *Scheveling* Church is seen at the farther End. In a very hot Summer's Day coming out of the Sun, one is as cool here as in a Grotto, or shady Apartment.

About half a Mile on the right lies *PORTLAND'S GARDENS*, to which a short Avenue leads, and they are well worth being seen, which may be done by giving the Keeper a Trifle. There is no House here except the Gardener's. What is most remarkable to be seen, or rather felt, is a thick Dew, that rises out of the Ground, but to no great Height before it falls again, every Time these Gardens are visited. There is also a Seat here, where King *William* and Queen *Mary* used to rest themselves, when they took a Walk without Attendants in the Gardens. The Stranger may if he pleases do the same without forfeiting any Thing to the Keeper, as those who unwarily sit in the Coronation Chair in *Westminster Abbey* are made to do. As the Phenomenon of the Dew never fails to happen,  
the



the Stranger before he goes thither, may dress accordingly.

There is a very good Orangery in this Garden, the Fruit of which, at least for its Colour, is not inferior to that of *Spain*; tho' they fall very short of them in Ripeness and Taste. It were an Experiment worth making perhaps to transport a few of these Oranges in a Ship, in order to know whether the Sea Air would not do that which the Sun refuses. The *Dutch* Oranges here are very little inferior in Bigness to those of *Spain* or *Portugal*.

On the opposite Side of the Road amongst the Downs stands the *Scheveling* Gibbet, which we only mention to shew, that this Village was formerly a considerable Town, of large Jurisdiction and Privileges, before the Sea broke in, and made such a Wreck of it.

This Way is exactly two *English* Miles, or about three Quarters of a *French* League in Length. There is a large round or oval Opening in the middle, from whence *Scheveling* Steeple strikes the Eye in a bolder Manner. There are some Seats and high Benches, upon which the Fishermen of *Scheveling* rest their Burdens, as they bring their Fish to the *Hague*.

The Village consists of one pretty Street, with the Church at the farther End of it. The Houses, tho' little, are so neat, that one would scarce take them to be inhabited by Fishermen. The largest of them stands on the Downs, and  
has

has a Prospect to the Sea. It was formerly an Inn, but is now empty; which should teach all the Innkeepers of the Country to make reasonable Bills. The Man that kept it last, broke. He trespass'd grievously upon the Stranger's Pocket, and in consequence came to nothing unlamented, after having made his Rapaciousness sufficiently known, to keep every body from his House.

From a very old Plan of the *Hague*, and the adjacent Country, which was to be seen in the Stadhouse there, but is lately taken down, I know not why, it appears, that the Church of *Scheveling* stood in the middle of the Village. By a later Plan now before me, but without Date, only it appears to have been taken before the Road was made, and when the *Hague* was one third less than it is now, there were above half as many Houses between the Church and the Sea, as between the Church and the Road. The Church is now almost the farthest Building towards the Sea. The *Dutch* Historians do not mention the precise Times, when the Inundations, § which have destroyed so much of this famous Village, happen'd; at least I do not remember to have met with any such Account in my reading. I may perhaps have overlook'd it; because Plans, tho' not Maps, are, for ought

§ In the Year 1574. the Sea broke in, and carried away 121 Houses, as is to be seen upon a Table in the Church. But when the other Inundations happen'd, I do not find.

T

that

that appears to the contrary, of modern Invention, and have not been known above two or three hundred Years. During that Period this Country has not wanted many exact Historians, both Natives and Foreigners. These Inundations must therefore have happen'd within that Time, or the two Plans just mentioned must have been wrong taken.

The Spires of this Church, and that of *Gravesande* and *Monster* three Leagues to the South, which are large, tho' neither of them very lofty, serve for Land-marks to Vessels at Sea. Yet the whole Coast of the Province of *Holland* is so very low, that these Spires are seldom discernible above three or four Leagues off at Sea; so that in hazy or thick Weather it is a dangerous Coast. The Coast of *Flanders* is not much better, being also a Flat. On the contrary, the *British* Coast is bold and deep, and Ships of the greatest Burthen need not fear to approach it, and to sail almost near enough for those on board to be heard when they speak loud upon the Land. The Charity of the *Dutch* is so universal, that many even of their Villages have Alms-houses: There is a neat one here for old Men.

During the fine Season, there is a great Concourse of People, some in Coaches, some on Horseback (which is an uncommon Sight in *Holland*) and others on Foot, to see the Fisher-boats out at Sea, and diverting themselves, some  
one



one Way, and some another, on the Sands. And indeed there is not a pleasanter, or more refreshing Place any where for Coaches, Chaises, or People on Foot, than these Sands, especially when the Sea is out. Bathing in the Salt Water of *Scheveling* has been thought uncommonly wholesome and medicinal: But the Sea-water here has more Virtue than in other Places.

Besides its Neighbourhood to the *Hague*, there are two or three other Things, which have render'd this Village famous, and occasioned it to be frequently mentioned in History.

In 1672. the *Dutch* were saved here by an extraordinary Providence, at a Time when nothing but the Intervention of Providence could have preserved them. In that memorable Year, when LEWIS XIV. came down upon this Country like a Land Flood or Torrent, he propos'd, at the same time he should enter the Province of *Holland* by Land, that his Fleet, in Conjunction with that of *Great Britain*, should make a Descent on the Side of the *Hague* by Sea. When the united Fleets came up within Sight of *Scheveling*, and were preparing to land, the Tide changed its usual Course, and stopt for several Hours, tho' very regular at other Times, to the great Amazement of the Inhabitants; and next Morning the *French* and *English* Fleets were dispersed by a Storm, and *De Ruyter* came up.

Some, who hate the very Name of a Miracle (tho' in Reality, without perceiving it, they sup-

pose the greatest of all Miracles, that is, the tying up of the Hands of the Almighty from ruling and disposing Events on extraordinary Occasions and Emergencies in this lower World according to his Will) some, I say, of these, who hate Miracles, and will admit of none here, pretend, that this Event happened at a great Ebb: but even admitting that, this very Ebb was an § extraordinary Providence, as the terrible Descent, which must have terminated in the Destruction of the Republick, was to happen punctually at that and no other Time. But that this Retrogradation of the Ocean was no high or

§ Many Writers of unquestionable Veracity might be produced to confirm the Truth of this Fact; but as it happen'd in a manner only yesterday, we need go no farther for the Certainty of it, than general Tradition and verbal Information, which any inquisitive reasonable Person may have from almost every body at the *Hague*, and in the Country. However I shall add the Words of an eminent Writer of our own, who was at the *Hague* but three Years after it happen'd.

“ There was one extraordinary Thing that happened near  
 “ the *Hague* this Summer (1672.) I had it from many Eye-  
 “ witnesses, and no doubt was made of the Truth of it by  
 “ any at the *Hague*. Soon after the *English* Fleet had re-  
 “ fitted themselves, they appeared in Sight of *Scheveling*,  
 “ making up to the Shore. The Tide turned; but they  
 “ reckoned that with the next Flood they would certainly  
 “ land the Forces that were on board, where they were like  
 “ to meet with no Resistance. The States sent to the  
 “ Prince for some Regiments to hinder the Descent. He  
 “ could not spare many Men, having the *French* near him.  
 “ So between the two, the Country was given for lost, un-  
 “ less *De Ruyter* should quickly come up. The Flood re-  
 “ turned, which the People thought was to end in their  
 “ Ruin. But to all their Amazement, after it had flowed  
 “ two or three Hours, an Ebb of many Hours succeeded,  
 “ which carried the Fleet again to Sea; and before that was  
 “ spent, *De Ruyter* came in view. This they reckon'd a Miracle  
 “ wrought for their Preservation. *Bishop Burnet's History of his  
 own Times. Book II.*

monthly

monthly Ebb, is as certain as any Thing perhaps that ever happened in Nature.

Not many Years before this amazing Event, King *Charles II.* during his long Exile, embark'd twice at *Scheveling* for his Kingdoms. The first time was in 1650. when he was invited by his *Scotch* Subjects, who engaged to acknowledge him as their Sovereign, and assist him in recovering the rest of his Dominions. The King went from the *Hague* to *Scheveling*, where “ the  
 “ || States of *Holland*, at infinite Hazard to themselves from *Cromwell* and *England*, suffer'd  
 “ their Ships to transport him. They gave all  
 “ Countenance to the *Scotch* Merchants and  
 “ Factors, who lived in their Dominions; and  
 “ some Credit, that they might send Arms and  
 “ Ammunition, and whatsoever else was necessary  
 “ for the King's Service, into that Kingdom.”  
 And this the States did, “ when the King was  
 “ at his lowest Ebb, and † was heartily weary  
 “ of being in a Place (*Paris*) where he was  
 “ very ill treated, and lived very uncomfortably,  
 “ and from whence he foresaw he should soon  
 “ be driven.”

The second Time the King embarked at *Scheveling* was in 1660. on board his own Fleet, which came to fetch him over, of which we have given an Account already.

|| *Clarendon's History*, vol. 3. p. 287.

† *Ibid.* p. 393.



This Village is famous also for a **SAILING CHARIOT** belonging to Prince *Maurice*, and kept here. It was made by *Stevinus*, a great Mathematician. The Form of it was simple and plain. It resembled a Boat, moved upon four Wheels of an equal Bigness, had two Sails, was steered by a Rudder placed between the two hindmost Wheels, and was stopt either by letting down the Sails, or turning it from the Wind.

This noble Machine has been celebrated by many great Authors, as one of the most ingenious Inventions later Ages have produced. *Bishop Wilkins*, in his Treatise of Mechanical Motions, mentions several great Men who had described and admired it.

§ *WALCHIUS* affirms it to be of such prodigious Swiftnes in its Motion, and yet of so great a Capacity as to its Burthen, *Ut in medio freto secundis ventis commissas naves velocitate multis parasangis post se relinquat, et paucarum horarum spatio viginti aut triginta miliaria germanica continuo cursu emetiatur, concreditosque sibi plus minus vectores sex aut decem in petatum locum transferat, facillimo illius ad clavum qui sedet nutu, quaquaversum minimo labore velis commissum, mirabili hoc continenti currus navigium dirigentis*: That it far exceeded any Ship under sail with ever so fair a Wind in Swiftnes. That in some few Hours Space it would convey six or ten Persons twenty or thirty German Miles; and that with little

§ *Fabularum Decas, Fab. 9.*

Labour

Labour to him who sits at the Helm, who may easily guide the Course of it as he pleases. That curious and eminent Person PEIRESKIUS travell'd from *Paris* to *Scheveling* for the Sight of this Chariot, and frequently talk'd of the incredible Swiftnefs of its Motion with Astonishment. *Commemorare solebat (Peireskius) stuporem, quo correptus fuerat, cum vento translatus citatissimo non persentiscere tamen; nempe tam citus erat, quam ventus.* Tho' the Gale was ever so brisk, it could not be perceived by those in the Chariot, because they went as swift as the Wind itself. Men, who ran before it, seem'd to go backwards as it pass'd them: Things seen at a great Distance being presently overtaken, and left behind. In two Hours it would go from *Scheveling* to *Putten*, which is fourteen *horæ milliariæ*, according to the same Author, or 42 Miles, with 28 Persons in it.

*Grotius* is very copious and elegant in celebrating this Invention, and the Author of it, in several of his Poems.

*Ventivolum Tiphys deduxit in æquora navim,  
Jupiter in stellas, æthereamque domum,  
In terrestre solum virtus Stevinia; nam nec,  
Tiphys, tuum fuerat, nec Jovis istud opus.*

And in another Place.

*Imposuit plaustro veſtāntem carbasa malum,  
An potius navi subdidit ille rotas.  
Scandit aquas navis, currus ruit aere prono,  
Et merito dicas, hic volat, illa natat.*

*Grotius* mentions an elegant Figure of it in Copper, done by *Geyneus*: And *Hondius* in one of his large Maps of *Asia* gives another Sketch of the like Chariots used in *China*.

Bishop WILKINS, who was perhaps the most universal Scholar *England* ever produced, and in particular had a wonderful mechanical Genius, thought, that it would be worth trying, whether such a Sailing Chariot might not be more conveniently made with moveable Sails; its Force to be received from their Motion, of the same Nature as those of a Windmill; the foremost Wheels, as in other Chariots, for the greater Facility, being somewhat lower than the others, according to a Figure which he adds. In that Figure the Sails are so contrived, that the Wind may turn them about from any Point, and their Motion must necessarily turn the Wheels, and consequently carry the Chariot to any Place, to which it is steer'd, tho' directly against the Wind. The principal Doubt, in such a Contrivance, would be, whether every little Ruggedness, or Unevenness of the Ground would not make the Chariot jolt in such a manner, as to hinder the Motion of its Sails; but if it should prove so, that might be capable of being remedied several Ways.

That such a Machine as the *Scheveling* Chariot is not only practicable, but easy to execute, must be evident to all who ever saw the Plate of it. The last Time it made its Appearance

on



on the Strand was about seventeen Years ago, when thro' the Unskilfulness of the Steersman it had like to have ran into the Sea, and put the Passengers into no small Fright.

That such Chariots are commonly used in the vast Plains of *China*, is affirmed by several credible Writers. *Boterus* says, they have also been tried in *Spain*, but with what Success he does not add. I once made an Experiment of this kind on a Child's Chair, by doing some Things to it, and adding a Sail, which succeeded beyond Expectation, but with an unforeseen Circumstance, that was very near giving me great Cause to regret my Mechanism. For the Wind being brisk, carried away the little Machine and Passenger in it with such Rapidity, that myself, as well as the Nurse, who almost swooned away, was in no small Terror. There was indeed a Precipice before it, which I thought at too great a Distance for any Danger. The Sailing Chair had almost reached the Brink of it, before I could overtake to stop it; and my being able to do so, was more owing to some large Pebbles that retarded the Motion, than my own Speed, tho' I ran as fast as I could.

Some Years ago an *English* Gentleman came to the *Hague*, and lodged in the same House with me. He told me, that he had offer'd his Service to several of the Nobility and others in *England*, in order to make them Coaches and Chariots of a new Invention, which were to go  
by

by Springs without Horses; and that he had met with no Encouragement: That as *Holland* was a perfect Plain, and the Roads as smooth as a Floor, they had advised him to try the *Hague*. He seem'd to be a great Mathematician, and discoursed so profoundly on the Laws of Motion, and every Thing that related to Mechanical Learning; that having at that Time just began the Study of Philosophy, I did not sufficiently understand him; but those who did, thought him a Prodigy in that Science. I have since reflected, that if this ingenious Gentleman had made a small Chariot, or other Machine, by way of Model, and set it in Motion in a large Room, or on a Garden-walk, such a Demonstration would have given more Satisfaction than all his profound Reasonings, and the Draughts which he had made upon Paper. I found he had not seen the Elector of *Saxony's* Cabinet of Rarities at *Dresden*, nor those at *Augsburg* and *Nuremburg*; which was a pity, as they contain the noblest Collection of such Curiosities in the World.

The Gentleman changed his Quarters, so that what Success he met with at the *Hague*, I know not; but, I believe, with none; for there is nothing of that kind either there, or in any other Part of *Holland*. As the Roads of this Country are either on their Dikes, with deep Ditches on both Sides, or along the Sides of their Canals; the *Dutch* Gentry might probably  
be

be as much afraid of them, as of the Sea, or a Precipice. And the few of their Roads, which have no such Inconveniencies, either run so obliquely, as to render a Spring Machine not quite so easy to manage, or are so planted with Trees on both Sides, as to keep off the Wind necessary to Chariots with Sails.

Another Reason which might probably make against the Gentleman's Proposal is, that the *Dutch* have very noble Coach-horses, in which no inconsiderable Part of their Pomp consists. The *English* might neglect it also in some measure for the same Reason, as, of all the Nations of the Earth, they delight most in Horses: And indeed if they are but well provided with them, they are indifferent as to every other Part of Equipage, in which they are far exceeded by almost every other People.

Horses perhaps were not so much in vogue in *Wilkins's* Time, who expresses himself thus:  
 " I have often wonder'd, why none of our  
 " Gentry, who live near great Plains, and  
 " smooth Champains, have attempted nothing  
 " to this purpose; Experiments of this kind be-  
 " ing pleasant, and not costly. What could  
 " be more delightful, or better Husbandry,  
 " than to make use of the Wind (which costs  
 " nothing, and eats nothing) instead of Horses?  
 " this being very easy to be effected by those,  
 " the Convenience of whose Habitations doth  
 " accommodate them for such Experiments."

But



But if this Art could be brought to Perfection, and the Use of such Machines were general in the Nation, *because they cost nothing, and eat nothing*; it is probable, they would be suppressed by Parliament, to support the Value of Land, and the Export of Horses, which, for some time past, has turned to some account.

It is pity however that Bishop *Wilkins* did not reduce it to Execution himself: For tho' the Neighbourhood of *Oxford* and *Chester*, in which Cities he had Offices, was unfit for such Experiments, yet that of *Cambridge*, where he long resided, and had large  $\S$  Incomes, was very proper for them. Whatever so great a Man as he undertook, would have been consider'd with Respect, as the Effect of his peculiar Genius and Reason; tho' others of less establish'd Characters would be treated as whimsical and chimerical for the like Attempts.

If the Traveller gives himself the Trouble to take a Turn on the Sand-hills, he may observe, how the *Dutch* fence themselves against the Ocean: For not content with those natural Mounds, they even fortify them, by staking

$\S$  In 1659. Dr. *Wilkins*, who had married *Cromwell's* Sister, and on account of his great Learning, was in high Esteem during that Usurper's Administration, was by his Son *Richard* the Protector, made Head of *Trinity College* in *Cambridge*, the best Preferment in that University. He \* kept it even after the Restoration, and by the Interest of the Duke of *Buckingham* in the Year 1668. was also made Bishop of *Chester*. He died four Years after in the House of his dear Friend Dr. *Tillotson*.

\* *Wood in his Athenæ Oxonienses, Vol. II. p. 505. contradicts this.*

down

down Mats of Rushes and Flags, with which they form a kind of Palifado-work for several Miles on those Hills. They line or fence the Dikes with the like Materials. The Sea-weed fasten'd with a small Mixture of Earth, gently gives way to the beating of the Sea, and resumes its Place when the Waves retire. Those *Dikes* are usually about twenty Feet high, twenty five broad at Bottom, and eight or nine at Top. They are made of the toughest Clay, fenc'd on the Land-side with Wood and Stone, and on the other with the Mats of Rushes and Flags just mention'd, staked down as high as the Tide generally rises, which hinders the Water from sapping and undermining the Body of the Dikes. In *North Holland*, in violent Storms, they lay Sails on the Outside of their Dikes, which they judge the best Defence for them they can use.

The Care which the G O D of Nature has taken for the Preservation of this, as of all the other Lands he has made, in the best manner according to their several Occasions, is very remarkable. All along the Coast of *Holland* from the *Hontz Bosse* near the *Texel*, down to the *Beer* at the Mouth of the *Maes*, which is about twenty five Leagues, the Violence of the Waves is check'd and repell'd by continued Rows of Sand-hills between thirty and five and thirty Feet in Height. Without these Hills the whole Country must long before now have been swallowed up by the Ocean: For Mathematicians, who have  
been

been employed by the Government to measure the Height of the two Elements, have reported, that they found the Sea, even in a Calm, above half a Foot higher than the Land, especially in the Neighbourhood of *Leyden*, which is lower than elsewhere.

Between these Hills of Sand and the Sea, as has been observed before, lies the pleasantest Way in the World; and the Water all along the Shore is so shallow, that in calm Weather a Man may go a great Way into it without being obliged to swim. Upon this Shore many Ships are forced by contrary Winds, especially in Winter, when the Nights are dark and long; but when the Sea is calm, it is very pleasant to see the great Number of Ships under Sail on the Coast, some continually disappearing, whilst others are perpetually coming in Sight; besides little Fleets of Fisher-boats about a Quarter of a League out at Sea, or returning with great Quantities of delicate Fish for the Markets of the *Hague*, *Delft*, *Leyden*, and other Places.

A pleasant Trip may be made here northward on the Sands towards *Britain's House*, or Castle, from thence over to *Leyden*, and so back to the *Hague*: This may be done in a Chaise in a Summer's Afternoon.

*BRITAIN'S HOUSE* is perhaps the most curious Piece of Antiquity in these Parts. It is five Miles North-west from *Leyden*, and above one North from *Catwick op Zee*. It was discovered



cover'd above 300 Years ago, on the retiring of the Ocean from the old Mouth of the *Rhine*, but more in 1550. and 1552. when the Sands were left bare for twenty Days. It has been a Square of 950 *Roman* Feet in Circumference. At that time many large Stones, Bricks, antique Vessels, and *Roman* Coins of several Metals, were dug up, with this Inscription: *Ex. Ger. Inf.* Some think it was built by *Caligula*, for a Granary of Corn brought from *Britain*.

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*The WOOD, and the Prince of  
ORANGE'S Palace there.*

ONE of the greatest Ornaments of the HAGUE is this *Wood*. You enter into it over three handſom Draw-bridges upon the Canal that ſurrounds the *Hague*. It is about a Mile and an half in Length, but not near ſo broad; and lies on the North of the *Hague*. More Deer, Hares, and other Game were formerly to be ſeen in it, than it has at preſent. There are now ſome Spots railed in for the Preſervation of the few that remain. It is the only Wood, except that at the Gates of *Haerlem*, in the Province. The Trees are chiefly Oak, and the Soil ſandy, which makes walking in it ſomething heavy.

There is however a *Mall* above half a Mile long, made by Art, and adorned with Rows of Trees on each Side, with Seats to reſt on. When I firſt came to the *Hague*, it was uſual for the foreign Miniſters, or others, to give Concerts of Muſick by Turns in the Summer Evenings, when there was an handſom Appearance of Perſons of the firſt Rank of both Sexes. The Muſick was a Mixture of the rural and martial Kinds, conſiſting principally of Drums, Trumpets,

pets, and French-horns. The Wood, the Canal, and the Row of Palaces on the *Princess Graaft*, which look into the Wood, occasioned a diversified Echo that render'd the Entertainment much more agreeable; and Care was taken to place the Performers at a proper Distance from the Company. This innocent and delightful Entertainment has been laid aside of late. The *Hague* is fallen off almost in every Thing from its former Gaiety and Magnificence, with which it captivated every body.

There are several Roads thro' the Wood, but no artificial ones, except the Mall, which is of great Emolument to the Inhabitants for taking the Air, to Men of Letters for Meditation, and Statesmen, who here may drive about in their Coaches, to unbend their Minds, and refresh their Bodies in the Quiet and Serenity of Solitude. Many Birds frequent these Shades, whose Musick seems uncommonly melodious. One would think those pretty Songsters came thither expressly to enliven the Thoughts, and cheer the Hearts of those who listen to their Notes.

At the Extremity of the Wood, above a Mile from the *Hague*, stands the Palace of *Orange*, commonly called the House in the Wood. It is a neat and beautiful Structure, built for an House of Mourning by *Amalia* of *Solms*, Widow of *Henry Frederick*, Prince of *Orange*, as is signified by an Inscription in gold Letters round the Gallery. The House is moated round, but



so as to have a large Grove before it cut into Walks, and a large Garden behind it. It is not seen till one is just upon it. The Entrance is over a Draw-bridge, and thro' a Gate with the Arms of *Nassau Orange*, and those of *Great Britain* quarterly at Top; Prince *William*, Son of the beforementioned *Frederick Henry* and *Amalia*, who built the House, having been married in 1641. to *MARY*, eldest Daughter of King *Charles I.* of *Great Britain*. Within the Gate on the right we find a long shady Walk or Mall. The Stairs are grand, and occupy the whole Front of the House. On each Side there is a Statue, *Ceres* and *Pomona*, of admirable Workmanship: They are something bigger than the Life, and carry their respective Ensigns. Builders and Architects of vulgar Taste, would instead of these rural Divinities have placed a *Mars*, a *Gladiator*, or some such terrible Figures; which seem exceedingly improper to adorn Seats of Tranquillity and Repose. In the Entrance on the right are two white marble Statues of *William I.* and Prince *Maurice*; and on the left those of Prince *Henry Frederick* and *William II.* Here you enter the principal Apartment, which is of an octogonal Form, and takes up the Body of the Building. It is exceedingly fine and magnificent. It is floor'd with Walnut-tree, and always covered with rich Carpets. In the Cupola there is a Gallery for Musick, and in the middle of the Cieling the Picture of the

Princes

Princess *Amalia* in Mourning. The Windows, which are always kept shut to preserve the Paintings, look into a magnificent Garden, into which the Descent is by hanging Stairs from a stately Glass Door.

But what constitutes the principal Ornament of this Saloon, and indeed of the whole House, are its exquisite Paintings, all executed by the great *Flemish* Masters, and particularly *Rubens*. That of *Vulcan* in his Shop, which is aptly enough placed near the Chimney, is the Work of that great Master, and esteem'd the best Piece in the Collection. And indeed one could hardly take one's Eyes off it, had not every other Picture some peculiar Beauty to recommend it. The Triumphs of *Frederick Henry* intirely occupy one Side of the Saloon: And indeed never did any Hero's Actions better deserve to be celebrated, than those of that great Prince. He carried on and completed the great Work, which his Father Prince *William*, and his Brother Prince *Maurice*, had so happily begun and advanced. From the Year 1625. when he made his first Appearance on the Scene of Action, till 1647. when he died, he performed so many glorious Exploits, and so effectually reduced the Power of *Spain*, that he might be prefer'd to many of the greatest Men in History, and is equall'd by few except the Princes of his own Family.

On each Side of the Chimney on the Floor are placed the Bustos of the Prince and Princess of *Orange*, done out of a Block of white Marble; but neither the Situation nor Sculpture represent their Highnesses to Advantage. It is hoped, that the Painter, who shall draw their Pictures, will do more Justice to the Originals.

On each Side of the Saloon lie the Prince and Princess's Apartments, each of which consist only of a Bed-chamber, a Dressing-room, and a Closet. There is a Rail of rich *India Japan* Work, which runs along the Foot of the Princess's Bed, and is inlaid with Mother of Pearl, and other precious Stones, that cast a twinkling Light, like the Stars in a dark Night. It is an exquisite Piece of Work, and cost 28,000 Gilders, or near 3000 l.

In one of the Drawing-rooms there is a Flower-piece valued at 15,000 Gilders: It was done by *Schiur*, a *Flemish* Master, who excelled in drawing Flowers. He also painted the Stadhouse at *Maestricht*, where he calls himself *Reginæ Sueciæ pictor*. To this Room belongs a Closet curiously wainscoted with fine *Japan* Work, which was formerly shewn to Strangers, but is now shut up.

On the Prince's Marriage with the Princess Royal of *Great Britain*, his Serene Highness caused two additional Wings to be added to this



this charming Seat, which before was not large enough to accommodate his Family, but is now abundantly commodious for that purpose. The new Building is in the same Taste with the old. The Hall, or Dining-room, is very fine; the Cieling, Chimney-piece, and Side-board, adorned with a Cascade, are of the finest Marble, and in a grand Taste. From this Room there is a Passage to the *English* Chapel, intended for the Use of her Royal Highness, which is not yet finished.

From the Back Gates lies the Road to *Leyden*. The Walk that leads to this Gate, has the Steeple of *Voorburgh* Church in Prospect at the Distance of two Miles. The Road to that Village is straight, and adorned with Rows of Trees on both Sides all the Way.

The Village of VOORBURG is remarkable only for its Antiquity, its Vicinity to the *Hague*, and a Boarding-school, where the *French* Tongue, Writing, and Accounts, are taught the Youth of the Country, and Foreigners; of which last, especially *English*, there are always some. There are the same kind of Schools at *Gonda*, *Iselmonde*, *Maarsen*, and many other Places. The *Dutch* being reckon'd the best Accomptants, and the most expert of all Nations in Trade, Strangers send their Children to be educated in their Schools. Besides the Languages, the different Species of Money, &c. current in every Part

of the World, of which the Knowledge is necessary to form the Merchant, are better understood and taught in this, than perhaps any other Country.

After having taken a Turn in this Village, one may return in the *Leyden* Boat to the *Hague* by the Canal.

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### *The Palace of RYSWICK.*

**T**HE Village of RYSWICK stands two short Miles from the *Hague*, and three from *Delft*, almost on the Road between the two Towns. It is remarkable for the Prettiness and Cleanliness, that distinguish the Villages of this Country from those of all others in the World. The *Ryswick* Road is a very beautiful Walk, well pav'd, and adorned with Rows of lofty Trees, and delightful Meadows on both Sides.

One passes thro' the Village to the Palace, which stands about a Quarter of a Mile farther. It is too much shaded with Trees, as indeed most of the Seats of this Country are. It was began by a Duke of *Neuburg*, but finished by the Prince of *Orange*. It is a very noble Structure, and the only one, I think, of Free-stone in the seven Provinces. It is all of hewn Stone, of great Extent in Front, but perhaps not proportionably high. It is adorned with a marble Stair-case, marble Floors, and a magnificent Terrass. It belongs to the Prince of *Orange*, and is at present let to particulars. There is a good Prospect of it from the Canal between *Delft* and the *Hague*.



This Palace is famous for the Treaty of Peace signed here between the confederate Powers of *Europe* and *France* in 1697. This Treaty was rather more advantageous to the *Dutch*, and the rest of the *Allies*, than that of *Nimeghen*, or any that had preceded it. The fourth Article of it however, which relates to the Re-establishment of the Protestant Religion in several Parts of the Empire, where the Arms of *France*, and the Calamities of War had in a manner abolish'd it, has not yet been put in Execution. The Affair was left to be enquired into, and settled by Commissaries of both Religions, which was accordingly attempted in 1698. and 1699. but without Effect. It was again proposed in 1709. and referr'd to the general Peace; and accordingly in the Treaty of *Utrecht* the King of *France* consented to it, in Consideration for the Queen of *Great Britain* and the States General. The Protestant Powers have, as Opportunities offer'd, bestirred themselves in this Affair. It was brought on the *Tapis* in 1734. and again in 1737. when the King of *Great Britain* in particular wrote a Letter to the States of the Empire, wherein His Majesty said, amongst other Things, “ That he resolved, in Conjunction  
 “ with the States General, and the Protestant  
 “ Powers, not to neglect any Care or Means  
 “ for procuring Success in that Affair: That  
 “ with this View he would employ his Offices  
 “ with the Emperor and the most Christian  
 “ King,

“ King, for obtaining their Approbation and  
 “ Consent, that the Treaty of *Westphalia*, which  
 “ is injured and obstructed by the Clause in that  
 “ of *Ryswick*, may be re-establish’d in all its  
 “ Force, conformably to his Imperial Majesty’s  
 “ Declaration in the Year 1734. and in Con-  
 “ sequence of the 21st Article of the Treaty of  
 “ *Utrecht*.” The Emperor referr’d the whole  
 Matter to *France*, and *France* referr’d it back to  
 the Emperor; and so those two great Roman  
 Catholick Powers bandied it backwards and for-  
 wards to each other. At last the most Christian  
 King, amongst other Things, made Answer to  
 the Protestant Powers, “ That they could not  
 “ take it amiss, if he was as zealous for the In-  
 “ terests of his Religion, as they were for that  
 “ of theirs.” The Places, wherein the Protestant  
 Religion was to be reinstated, which that Clause  
 has in view, are the Electorate of *Treves*, the  
 Bishoprick of *Spire*, the Palatinate on this Side  
 the *Rhine*, the Dutchy of *Deux-ponts*, the *Bris-  
 gaw*, and the *Black Forest*.

King *Charles XI.* of *Sweden* had the Honour  
 to be the Mediator of this grand Treaty, which  
 was intirely negociated at the *Hague*, and only  
 signed at *Ryswick*. The few previous Meetings  
 of the Ministers Plenipotentiary at this last Place  
 were meerly ceremonial. The Ministers of  
*France* resided at *Delft* during the Congress.  
 Those employed by *Great Britain* were the Earl  
 of *Peterborough*, and the Lords *Lexington* and  
*Villars*,

*Villars.* There was no small Trouble in adjusting the Ceremonial. Separate Entries were made into the Palace, and only the Mediator had the Privilege to enter at the principal Gate.

The *French* boasted that this was the fourth Time their grand Monarch *had given Peace to Europe*; for that was the usual modest Phrase of that long Reign. But methinks it was something mortifying for the mighty Giver of so great a Good to Mankind, to be obliged to send his Ambassadors into a Village of an Enemy's Country. The Truth is, all Parties were perhaps equally † weary of fighting, and desirous of Peace; but they enjoy'd that Blessing only for the short Space of four Years; for the same grand Person, who was so benign to the rest of *Europe*, thought fit to change his Disposition in 1701.

There are several other handsom Houses of private Persons in the Neighbourhood.

† The Impatience of the *English* and *Dutch* under Taxes, and a groundless Clamour raised in *England* against King *William*, for transporting the Treasures of the Nation to *Holland* (which was evidently contradicted by the Conduct of the *Dutch*, who were more impatient for a Peace, than the *English* themselves) reduced that Prince, contrary to his Opinion, to give into a Treaty with *France*; whereas carrying on the War till the King of *Spain's* Death, at the Expence of eight or ten Millions then, would in all Probability have saved the Nation fifty Millions afterwards, and all the fatal Consequences of that Load.

*The*



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*The Village of* LOOSDUIN.

**T**HIS Village is what is called abroad a great Hour or League, or about five Miles from the *Hague*. The Road that leads to it is not less agreeable than those mentioned before, with the Addition of a Canal on one Side of it. The Village lies about half a Mile from the Sea, from which it is separated by the Hills of Sand, that extend so far into the Country.

LOOSDUIN is famous for the well-known Story of *Margaret*, Countess of *Henneberg*, Daughter of *Florence IV.* Count of *Holland* and *Zealand*. That memorable Event happen'd in 1276. and is thus related. The Countess one Day meeting a poor Woman with Twins in her Arms, upbraided her as unchaste, insinuating that one Man could not get two Children at once. The Woman hearing herself unjustly reproached, wished that her Ladyship, who was then pregnant, might have as many Children at a Birth, as there were Days in a Year. The Wish, or rather Curse, was fulfilled upon the uncharitable *Margaret*, who was delivered of 365 Children, that were all baptized by *Guido*, Suffragan of *Utrecht*. All the Males were named *John*, and all the Females *Elizabeth*; and all died on the same

same Day with their Mother. One of them, or at least an Abortion given out to be one of them, is to be seen in the *Museum Regium* at *Copenhagen*. *Erasmus*, *Ludovicus Vives*, *Camerarius*, and *Guicciardin* believed this Story, and related it as true. It is also mentioned by many other grave Writers. In the Church there is a Board or Table affixed to the Wall, with a long Inscription, giving an Account of the whole Matter; and also the two brass Basons in which the Children were baptized, with this Distich under them:

*En tibi monstrosum nimis et memorabile factum,  
Quale nec a mundi conditione datum.*

And indeed so monstrous a Birth was never heard of since the Creation of the World.

Historians and Writers of Travels, who have copied the Inscription, vary with each other in the Terms of it. The Letters, which are of Gold, were lately renewed, when I took it; but it would be too long, neither is it material to insert it here, the Substance of it being as just related. On the whole there is little room to doubt, but that there was some such § monstrous Birth,

§ An eminent modern Writer is perhaps in the wrong for asserting absolutely, *Hunc partum post aliquot secula confictum, ad fabulas pertinere aniles, placitisque physicorum repugnare*. It would be difficult to prove such Births repugnant to the Powers of Nature; and great Physicians have thought, that it is more to be wonder'd, that these Births happen so seldom, than that they happen at all. It is however

Birth, tho' magnified with fabulous Circumstances thro' Length of Time, and Multiplicity of Relaters. It is certain, next to Murder, that no Vice has been more remarkably punished even in this Life, than Pride, Uncharitableness, and Contempt of the Poor.

however for the Order and Well-being of Families, and consequently of the World, that Mankind should be generated according to the ordinary Course of Nature, the due Increase and Peopling of the Earth being sufficiently answer'd in that Way. Prodigious Births however sometimes happen, as if expressly to awaken the Attention of Mankind, and to teach them, *Naturam non esse Deum*. For if the supreme Disposal of Things were left to Nature alone, this World would soon become a *Chaos* of Confusions, and infinite Disorders, as well physical as moral, ensue. *Picus Mirandola*, a Prince no less eminent for his Learning and Veracity, than his Dignity, mentions a Woman, that had twenty Children at a Birth. An ancient Naturalist proves, that she may physically be deliver'd of six at a Birth. *Albertus Magnus* speaks of one, who had an hundred and fifty at once: but as we observed before, Things of this Nature are always exaggerated. The Origin of the present Royal Family of *Great Britain* from the Dukes of *Bavaria* and *Saxony* is remarkable enough. Historians give this well-known Account of it. *Germentrude*, Countess of *Altorf* in *Swabia*, having accused a poor Woman of Adultery, and caused her to be punished for having twelve Children at a Birth, was soon after delivered of twelve Sons herself. Her Husband, Count *Isenberg*, being then absent, to avoid the same Scandal, she order'd the Midwife to carry out, and kill eleven of them. The Count happening to come home at the same Instant, asked the Midwife what she had in her Apron; and she answered, *Woelpen*, that is, Whelps, or Puppies. Upon his insisting to see them, she confest'd the whole Affair; and the Count, in consequence, enjoining her Secresy, put them out to nurse. Six Years after he invited most of his own, and his Lady's Relations to a Feast, and in the midst of their Jollity brought out his eleven Sons all drest alike. The Countess upon this owned her Fault, and was pardoned. The Count, in Remembrance of their accidental Preservation, order'd them to be called *Guelphs*. From the eldest of these descended *Henry Guelph*, Count of *Altorf*, whom the Emperor *Conrad II.* afterwards made Duke of *Bavaria*.

The



### *The Palace of HONSLAERDYCK.*

**F**I V E Miles beyond *Loosduin* lies the Palace of HONSLAERDYCK, so that it is usual for those who go to see this Palace, to take the Church of *Loosduin* in their Way, and so see both Places the same Day.

It is a stately Pile of modern Architecture, with fine Gardens, beautiful Fountains and Statues; amongst the latter of which are some antique ones, as *Roman* Gladiators, *Sampson* tearing a Lion, &c. The Rooms below are paved with Marble, and those above are very sumptuous. There are two Galleries full of excellent Paintings, amongst which is the Picture of *Lewis XIV.* of *France*, when a Child. The Princess's Closet is curiously wainscoted with fine *Japan* Work. Behind the Palace is a pleasant Grove, regularly planted, which forms a Square of half a Mile from each Angle to the Centre, and beyond that a Menagery, where foreign Birds and Beasts were formerly kept in great Numbers. In a Word, *Honslaerdyck* is one of the finest Structures of the *Low Countries*, and superior to many noted Palaces of *Italy*.

This, and the Palace of *Loo* in *Guelderland*, were the favourite Retreats of King *William III.*

In

In those sweet Abodes that great Prince used to unbend his Mind from Affairs of State, and enjoy the Advantages of Privacy. Besides which, these, of all his Palaces, were the most spacious, and in consequence the most capable of accommodating a numerous Household: The House in the Wood, *Ryswick*, *Soesdyck*, and *Dieren*, being either too small, or not convenient in other respects for that purpose. The Air of *Honslaerdyck* is good, which might also recommend it to the King, who from his Cradle was of a tender Constitution, and much afflicted with an Asthma.

The Villages of MONSTER and GRAVESAND lie beyond *Honslaerdyck*, not far from the Mouth of the *Maes*. *Gravesand* was formerly a considerable Town, the Seat of the Counts of *Holland*, and of the Provincial States. In 1546. in digging up some old Foundations, several curious earthen Vessels, supposed to be 1400 Years old, were found here. The adjacent Country is reckon'd to produce the best Wheat, and sweetest Grass in *Holland*, which makes the Cheese of *Gravesand* highly esteem'd. Near this Place stood the ancient Palace of the Lords of *Polan*, which, with several neighbouring Castles, were burnt by the People of *Delft* in 1359. This Estate belongs now to the Prince of *Orange*; but the King of *Prussia* has the Palace of *Honslaerdyck*, as joint Heir to King *William*.

The

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*The City of DELFT.*

**T**HIS City lying in the Neighbourhood of the *Hague*, a Day, or at least an Afternoon, cannot be better spent than in going to see it. The Generality of Travellers indeed pass thro' it on their Way from *Rotterdam* to the *Hague*; but that is always done in an hurry, in order to secure the first Boat that goes off for the *Hague*, without allowing themselves sufficient Time for viewing so considerable a City.

*Delft* is but five Miles, or a large Hour, from the *Hague*; but a Chaise with a good Horse will run it in half that Time. The Road is exceedingly fine. The Village of *Ryswick* is left a little on the right, and one drives on to the Canal, over which there is a Bridge, which being passed, the fine Road continues along the Side of the Canal quite to *Delft*.

Without the Gate there is a fine Grove of Trees, under the Shade of which Passengers generally take a Turn, till the Boat for the *Hague* goes off. From the opposite Gate the Canal, which goes to *Rotterdam*, is very broad, at which there is an handsom Key, or Landing-place, adorned with Trees. Here the Yachts, which bring the Deputies of the several Provinces



to the Assemblies of the *Hague*, have their Station. The Deputies quit the Vessels here, and take Coach for the *Hague*. These Yachts are exquisitely beautiful and rich; the Provinces and Cities vying with each other, which shall have the finest Yachts for the Accommodation of their Representatives. Their Burden generally is from about 30 to 50 Tons. They are adorn'd with Streamers, and carry Guns, with Trumpets and other Musick, which is very sweet on the Water. Colliers from *Scotland* also unload here, and furnish the Inhabitants of *Delft*, the *Hague*, and *Leyden*, with Coals.

This City, as indeed all the rest of the Province, lies in the midst of beautiful Meadows. It is surrounded with a Wall, and a Trench full of Water; is above two Miles in Circumference, is longer than it is broad, and consists chiefly of two beautiful Streets, that lie parallel. They are almost a Mile in Length, adorned with Trees, and Canals, over which are many handsom stone Bridges. All here is as calm and still as in the midst of the Country, *Delft* being inhabited chiefly by rich People, who have quitted Business for the sake of Retirement.

The remarkable Buildings, and other Things here, are, the old Palace, where Prince *William I. of Orange*, the Founder of the State, and of its Glory, was treacherously murder'd by an Emissary of *Philip II. King of Spain*. He was

shot with a Pistol charged with three Bullets; just as he was rising from Table, and ordering the Affassin a Passport to go to a certain Place whither he was sending him. The Balls enter'd the Prince's Temples, and lodged in the Wall: the Holes they made in it are still shewn to Strangers. After the Prince received the Wound, he died immediately, saying only, LORD HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL, AND ON THIS POOR PEOPLE. The People lamented him as their common Father; and never was a Funeral celebrated with greater Pomp, and more real Sorrow. He was only one and fifty Years old at his Death; but lived long enough to humble a proud lawless Tyrant, to assert the Liberty of his Country, to establish a national Church, and found a glorious Commonwealth by his Wisdom and Valour. The Affassin, *Baltazar Gherard*, was soon after executed, and died so harden'd, as to say, *He would do it, if it were to be done again.* That Villain is inroll'd by some Roman Catholick Monasteries amongst their Martyrs.

The Remains of this great Prince were interred in the new Church here; and the Republick caused a magnificent Mausoleum to be erected over them, to perpetuate the Glory of her Founder, and her Gratitude for the inestimable Services she had received from him. The Effigies of the Prince is represented in Marble, with his Statue standing by it in Brass completely armed,

armed, with this Motto, *TE VINDICE TUTA LIBERTAS*; *You were the Champion and Preserver of our Liberty*; and another Emblem representing the Prince going on steadily in a Storm, with these Words, *Sævis tranquillus in undis*. At his Feet lies the Figure of a Dog, which is said to have died of Grief, when he was murder'd. There are four other Princes and Princesses of his Family interr'd in this Monument. The last of whom was a Princess, Daughter of the present Prince and Princess of Orange, that died at her Birth in 1735. The Corpse was expos'd upon a Bed of State during three Days to the View of the People.

This Monument is excellently well adorned, and the whole executed with a masterly Taste. The Inscription is very fine, and worthy the Hero, whom it is intended to commemorate.

*D. O. M. & eternæ memoriæ Gulielmi Nassoviæ supremi Auranfionensium Principis, Patr. Patr. qui Belgii fortunis suas posthabuit, & suorum; validissimos exercitus ære plurimum privato bis conscripsit, bis induxit; Ordinum auspiciis Hispaniæ tyrannidem propulit; veræ religionis cultum, avitas patriæ leges revocavit, restituit; ipsam denique libertatem tantum non assertam, Mauritio principi, paternæ virtutis hæredi filio, stabiliendam reliquit. Herois verè pit, prudentis, invicti, quem Philip. II. Hisp. R. Europæ timor, timuit; non domuit, non terruit; sed empto percussore fraude nefanda sustulit; Fœderat. Belgii provinc. perenni memør. monum. fec.*



To the most good and most high **G O D**, and to the immortal Memory of **WILLIAM** of **NASSAU**, sovereign Prince of *Orange*, the Father of his Country; who preferr'd the Good of the *Netherlands* to that of himself and his Family; twice levied, and brought in a strong Army principally at his own Expence; repell'd the Tyranny of *Spain*, as General for the States; recover'd and reinstated true Religion, and the ancient Laws of his Country; and lastly not only asserted the publick Liberty himself, but left it to be firmly establish'd by his Son Prince *Maurice*, the Heir of his great Father's Virtues. The United Provinces of the *Dutch Netherlands* have erected this Monument, to perpetuate the Memory of this truly pious, wise, and invincible Hero, whom *Philip II.* of *Spain*, the Terror of *Europe*, dreaded, but not being able to terrify or conquer, hired an Assassin to murder treacherously.

The Church in which this Monument stands, is a very noble Building, its Steeple one of the highest and finest in the *Low Countries*, and the Chimes unusually harmonious. They play one Tune at the first Quarter after every Hour, two at the half Hour, three at three Quarters, and four before the Hour strikes.

The Market-place, which is a spacious Square, has this lofty Steeple on one Side, and opposite to it the Town-house: on the two other Sides are Houses of the Citizens. The Town-house is

an old-fashion'd Gothick Structure built about two hundred Years ago, but the Walls being new painted and gilt, it looks as fresh as if erected but yesterday. It may be compared to those antiquated Beauties, who besmear themselves over with Paints and Washes, to conceal the Wrinkles and Deformity of old Age. It is adorned with several Statues; as those of Justice, Prudence, and Mercy; Divinities, or Virtues, which ought to preside in sovereign Courts. Over the Gate are these two Lines:

*Hec domus odit, amat, punit, conservat, bonorat,  
Nequitiam, pacem, crimina, jura, bonos.*

On the Town-house of *Glasgow*, a City of *North Britain*, there is the same Distich; but which of the two have borrowed it from the other, I don't know.

In the old Church, which is also a lofty Pile with an high Steeple, but inferior to the new, are the Monuments of the great *VAN TRUMP* and *VAN HEINE*, two *Dutch* Admirals kill'd at Sea. *Van Trump* is represented reposing on a Cannon, surrounded with Arms and Trophies. That Admiral defeated the *Spaniards* in two Engagements, and ruined their Power at Sea. In *Cromwell's* War with the *Dutch*, *Van Trump* fought *Blake*, and both sent an Account of their Victory to their Principals. In another Engagement the *English* were obliged to retire into the

*Thames*; but in a third, which lasted three Days, the *Dutch* were defeated. In 1653. two other cruel Battles happen'd, in the last of which the *English* were victorious, and *Trump* kill'd. Notwithstanding these Defeats, that Admiral was buried with great Pomp, and had the utmost posthumous Honours done him by his grateful Country,

The *Dutch* are excellent Masters to serve. They value their Servants for their Merit, and strenuous Endeavours to acquit themselves well, rather than for their Success. The former is in the Power of Man; the latter depends finally on God, who alone is the Giver of Victories. In this Spirit it is that they adorn their vanquish'd Admirals with Crowns of Lawrel, and transmit their faithful Services and glorious Deaths to Posterity.

PETER HEINE the Admiral, took the *Spanish* Silver Fleet.

The principal Magazine and Armory of the Province of *Holland* is kept here. The House, which is very large, was built in 1692. There is a terrible Display of Cannon and Mortars regularly piled up one above another without Doors. Amongst the rest are two Pieces of Ordnance cast at *Lubeck* in 1669, of which each weighs 8000 Pounds.

This City is also famous for its excellent earthen Ware in Imitation of China. On the Market Days, or during the Wake, or *Kermis*,  
vast



vast Quantities of that Commodity are exposed to Sale in the Streets. It is called *Delft* Ware from this City. They are arrived to such Perfection in making it, that it is hardly inferior to China in Fineness; but they have not yet been able to make it transparent. It is probable, that they will attempt nothing farther that Way for want of Encouragement. The *Dutch East India* Company import such vast Quantities of Porcelain from *China*, and which is sold so cheap, that there is hardly a Family in the Provinces, tho' ever so poor, that is not tolerably well provided with this foreign Commodity, so that their own Manufacture is in no small Measure of Disgrace.

Formerly there was a considerable Settlement of *British* Merchants and Clothiers here, but they removed to *Rotterdam*, as more convenient for Trade.

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*The City of* ROTTERDAM.

**A**S this City is the most considerable Staple, that the *British* Nation has upon the Continent of *Europe*, and the usual Landing-place of Strangers, we will take a Turn thither, and see the principal Curiosities of the Place. It is no more than three Leagues from the *Hague*, and two from *Delft*, on the Canal; from which last Place the Boat goes off every Hour. You soon pass the Powder-house on the right, which now stands about a Cannon-shot out of the Town, to prevent such a Disaster as happen'd in 1654. when the States Magazine in the City was blown up by an unknown Accident, which beat down about 200 Houses, kill'd and wounded many People, and some were miraculously saved under the Ruins.

OVERSCHIE is above half Way to *Rotterdam*. The Boat passes thro' it. It is a large and pleasant Village, and so well built, as to exceed many Market Towns in *England* and *France*; but much of it is not seen from the Water. On the right there is a large Canal that extends to *Delfts-haven* on the *Maes*, and carries Vessels of considerable Burthen to *Delft*, so that it serves that City for a Port. A fine Avenue, above half a Mile long, adorn'd with Rows of Trees  
on

on each Side of the Canal, leads to the Gates of *Rotterdam*.

This beautiful City is of a triangular Form, and so much enlarged of late, that next to *Amsterdam* and *Leyden*, it is the greatest City in *Holland*. Its fine Buildings and spacious Streets, adorned with lofty Trees, and noble Canals, which are always full of Ships, strike the Stranger on landing with wonderful Pleasure, having never seen any Thing of that kind in his own Country. It lies on the North Side of the *Maes*, which is here about a Quarter of a Mile broad, and about fifteen Miles distant from the Sea. The Canals, which run into the Heart of the City, are so very broad and deep, that Ships of great Burthen come into it, and lade and unlade at the Merchants Doors.

The *Heeren-fleet* is the finest Street in *Rotterdam*. Most of the Houses are new, and built of hewn Stone, so that it has a finer Effect, tho' it is not so large as the Street of the same Name at *Amsterdam*. The *Boom-quay* lies delightfully along the *Maes*. It is above half a Mile in Length, and extends from the *New* to the *Old Head*, the two Places, where the Water of the River enters the City, and fills the Canals. On the one Side it has a magnificent Row of Trees and Houses, or rather Palaces, and on the other the River with the Ships at Anchor. This Quay or Street is extremely clean, and so broad, that it has distinct Walks for Coaches and Persons



sons on Foot. It is the usual Resort of the People of Condition, whom it serves instead of a Mall; and indeed for Variety of pleasing Objects, and the noble Prospect, it is, I believe, the pleafantest Walk in the World.

The finest House upon it is that of the late Lord *North* and *Gray*. It is of hewn Stone, and a very substantial and beautiful Structure. It came to him by marrying a rich *Dutch* Lady, that Lord being before well known in *Holland* and the Army. He lost his right Hand at the Battle of *Hochstet*, was in Favour with *Queen Anne's* last Ministry, and being supposed to be concerned in *Laver's* Plot, was committed to the Tower; from whence on being discharged, he retired abroad, and died in *Spain*. Lord *Elbank*, if I am not mistaken, has married his Daughter, and in her Right has this Palace with a large Estate in the Provinces.

The *English* Church here is an handsom Building. The private Contributions not sufficing to compleat it, the *British* Parliament in 1712. gave 2500 l. for that Use. The Bishop of *London* is Ordinary of this, and the Church at *Amsterdam*.

There is a neat *Jewish* Synagogue lately built here, into which any one may go on a Saturday to see their Worship.

The famous Monsieur *Bayle* lived also in a little House on the *Boom-quay*, but did not much enjoy the Pleasure of the Place. His

Books

Books and Study constituted his supreme Delight: He knew no other, and led the Life of a true Philosopher. He was meanly provided with the Goods of Fortune, having nothing but what he received from his Booksellers; for the Pension of 600 Florins, or 60 l. which he had from the Town of *Rotterdam*, as honorary Professor of Philosophy, was soon taken from him. *Monf. Jurieu*, § and the Consistory of the *French* Church not approving some Things in his Writings, represented him as a dangerous Man to the Magistrates, and got his Salary taken from him. He died in 1707. and left many Works behind him, of which the most celebrated is his Historical and Critical Dictionary, which has long been the Entertainment and Delight of Men of the most different Tastes, and the common Place of the superficial Scholar, the Wit, and the Libertine. One would indeed imagine it the Work not of one, but of several different Pens. In it are seen the refined Critic, the

§ *Monfieur Jurieu*, who had a noble Zeal for Religion, and was besides a Person of very considerable Interest, ought to have endeavoured to bring over *Mr. Bayle*, if he err'd, and not have driven him to Poverty, and thereby reduced him to support himself by such Means as he could. On this Occasion the *French* Clergyman acted neither with the Subtlety of the Serpent, nor the Innocence of the Dove. He ought to have followed the Example of the Ministers of State, who, when they have to do with an able and enterprizing Man, bring him over, and make him their own by good Usage. It is evident, that *Monsieur Bayle* adapted all his Writings to the prevailing Taste of the Age in which he wrote, and to all kinds of Readers; in effect of which there was not a Philosopher, Divine, Physician, Man of Wit or Letters, or Libertine in *Europe*, that did not either purchase, or read his Works.

profound

profound Philosopher, the obscene Trifler, and the dubious or disguis'd Atheist. Were a Person of sufficient Abilities, and as strongly inclined to the Propagation of Virtue, as the Author was to the Subversion of it, to compile all that make for the first into one Volume out of *Bayle's* four, such a Collection would be the richest Piece of Historical and Critical Literature in the World; and its Weight in Gold were too small a Price for it. Monsieur SAURIN in several Parts of his Writings has with great Justness, and but too much to the Life, drawn the Portrait of this unaccountable great Man.

|| “ He was, says that excellent Author, one of  
 “ those extraordinary Men, whom it is difficult  
 “ to reconcile with themselves, and whose opposite  
 “ Qualities give us room to doubt, whether  
 “ we ought to consider him as the best, or the  
 “ worst of Men. On the one hand, he was a  
 “ great Philosopher, who knew how to distinguish  
 “ Truth from Falshood; who could at  
 “ one View perceive all the Consequences of a  
 “ Principle, and the Chain, or Series, in which  
 “ they were link'd together; on the other, he  
 “ was a great Sophist, who undertook to confound  
 “ Truth with Falshood, and knew how  
 “ to deduce false Inferences from the Hypotheses  
 “ he advanced. On the one hand, he was a  
 “ Man of Learning and Knowledge, who had  
 “ read all that could be read, and remember'd

|| *Serm. de Saurin. Tom. III.*

“ all



“ all that could be remember’d ; on the other,  
 “ he was ignorant, or at least affected to be so,  
 “ of the most common Things, in respect to  
 “ which he propos’d such Difficulties, as had  
 “ been answer’d a thousand Times. On the one  
 “ hand, he attack’d the most eminent Men,  
 “ open’d a large Field of Labour for them, led  
 “ them thro’ the most difficult Ways, and if  
 “ he did not get the better of them, at least  
 “ gave them great Trouble to get the better of  
 “ him ; on the other, he made use of the  
 “ worst of Authors, to whom he was lavish of  
 “ his Praises, frequently disgracing his Writings  
 “ by citing such Names, as no learned Man  
 “ ever mentioned. On the one hand, he was  
 “ free, at least in Appearance, from all the  
 “ Passions that do not consist with the Spirit  
 “ of Christianity ; grave in Discourse, temperate  
 “ in his Diet, and austere in his Manner of  
 “ living ; on the other, he employ’d the whole  
 “ Force of his Genius to subvert the Funda-  
 “ mentals of Morality, and attack’d to the ut-  
 “ most of his Power, Modesty, Chastity, and  
 “ all the Christian Virtues. On the one Side,  
 “ he appeals to the Tribunal of the most severe  
 “ Orthodoxy, has recourse to the purest Sources,  
 “ and borrows his Arguments from the least  
 “ suspected Authorities ; on the other, he treads  
 “ in the Footsteps of Heretics, advances the  
 “ Objections of the ancient Heresiarchs over again,  
 “ lends them new Arms, and in the present  
 “ collects

“ collects all the Errors of past Ages. May  
 “ this Man, who was endow’d with so many  
 “ Talents, be acquitted before God for the ill  
 “ Use he made of them! May that JESUS,  
 “ whom he so often attack’d, have expiated  
 “ his Sins! —

Near the great Church is the little obscure  
 House, where the great ERASMUS was born,  
 which is signified by his Picture, and this Distich  
 over the Door:

*Ædibus his ortus, mundum decoravit ERASMUS*  
*Artibus ingenuis, religione, fide.*

That is, ERASMUS, who adorned the World  
 with Arts and Sciences, Religion and Virtue,  
 was born here. There are other Inscriptions of  
 the same Nature in *Spanish* and *Dutch*. Hard  
 by in the great Market-place stands the Statue  
 of this great Man. It is larger than the Life,  
 of Brass, but plain. It represents him standing  
 in the Habit of a Doctor, a Fur-gown and Cap,  
 with a Book in one Hand, and the other upon  
 it, as going to turn over a Leaf. Little Chil-  
 dren are sometimes seen waiting at this Statue,  
 till the Clock of the great Church strikes the  
 Hour, having been told that every Time *Eraf-*  
*mus* heard it, he turned over a Leaf. On the  
 Pedestal is a magnificent *Latin* Inscription in  
 Praise of this great Man, and they have also his  
 Picture, which was sent from *Basil* in *Switzer-*  
land

and four Years before his Death. He was born in 1467. and died at *Friburgh* in *Alsace* 1536. King *Philip* II. and his whole Court came to *Rotterdam*, only to see the House where *Erasmus* was born. His Countrymen in all Ages may quote him against such as reproach them with the Epigrammatist's *Auris Batava* †: So great is the Honour, which sometimes redounds to whole Cities and Nations from one great Man's being born amongst them!

On the Market-place, which is a large Bridge, or Arch, they talk of erecting a new Stadhouse: and indeed *Rotterdam* wants a better than it now has. It is probable however, that they will be in no haste about this, but allow themselves some Time to breathe between finishing their Exchange, an expensive Work, which has lately been compleated, and entering upon another, which cannot be erected but at far greater Charges. The *Chemin*, or Land-house, is a lofty modern Structure. Its Front is of Free-stone, adorned with Fret-work, and in particular a spread Eagle much larger than the Life. It is a bold Piece of Sculpture, and deservedly esteem'd. It is a pity the *Dutch* had not as good Architects, as they have Statuaries and Carvers. The Statues and Groupes on the Fronts of their Buildings are like Ornaments to the deform'd, which only serve to make their Ugliness more conspicuous. The Admiralty of

† See what is said above on these Words of Martial, p. 232, seq.  
the



the *Maes* is here, and near it the Dock, which is very large, and where they are always either building or refitting Men of War. But the largest Ships of this Jurisdiction lie at *Helvoetsluys*, as the more commodious Station, that Place being on the Ocean. It requires both Time and Trouble to work a large Ship from the Dock of *Rotterdam* to the Sea. The *Glasshouse* here is one of the best in the seven Provinces: It makes Abundance of glass Toys, and enamell'd Bowls, which are sent to *India*, and exchang'd for *China* Ware, and other Oriental Commodities.

*Rotterdam* has four Churches, to which there are twelve Ministers, each of whom has a Salary of an hundred and seventy Pounds paid out of the Revenues of the City. The largest Church is that of St. *Lawrence*, from the Steeple of which there is a fine Prospect of *Delft*, *Leyden*, *Dort*, and without doubt, the greatest Part of *South Holland*, tho' I could never see *Amsterdam* from it, the Weather being always thick, when I happen'd to be on the Tower. This Church is very large. A magnificent brass Ballustrade of exquisite Workmanship separates the Choir from the *Nave*. The Ministers catechise, marry, &c. and the Presbytery of the Town, and the Synod of the Province assemble in the Choir, which is also used on several other Occasions.

The Promotions made in the Schools here are celebrated with no small Solemnity in the Choirs,

Choirs, those Seminaries of Learning being very much the Care of the Government of the United Provinces. The Scholars, with five or six Masters or Professors, repair hither twice a Year at fixed Times. The former perform certain Exercises before the Deputies of the Senate, who are generally the most eminent Persons for their Learning, attended by some of the Clergy. The Rector, or first Professor, opens the Assembly with a short Speech in Praise of Literature and the Civil Magistracy, under whose Protection and Encouragement it is made to flourish. The Youth then, who are to remove to the University, pronounce each an Oration of almost half an Hour in length, on different Subjects; as in Praise of *William I.* Prince of *Orange*, and the other Princes of that illustrious House; of *Henry IV.* of *France*, and *Queen Elizabeth* of *England*, their Protectors; of *Erasmus*, from whom the School is called *Schola Erasmiana*; on the Dignity, Ornament, and Utility of sound Learning to a State; in Praise of Commerce and Industry, with severe Invectives against Idleness and Passion; on Fortitude, Patience, Concord, and the other moral Virtues. They conclude with a Compliment to their Masters for their Care of them, and to the Magistrates for honouring them with their Presence on that Occasion; and lastly they take leave of their School-fellows, whom they exhort to pursue their Studies, and to live in Love with each

Y

other.

other. The principal Magistrate then presents each of them with some Classick Author, finely bound and gilt. The Juniors, who are remov'd to an higher Class, or Form, advance into the middle, and make the Magistrate and their Masters a Compliment in a Sentence or two either of Verse or Prose. The Organs, which are the largest in the Country, play before and after this Solemnity.

And this brings us to the third and last great City in the Neighbourhood of the *Hague*.

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*The*



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*The City of* LEYDEN.

**L** EYDEN is no more than three Hours, or about fifteen Miles, from the *Hague*, and as many from *Delft*. To each of those Cities eight Boats set out every Day at certain Hours; as also to *Haerlem*, and from thence to *Amsterdam*, from whence *Leyden* is only six Hours distant; but crossing the Lake of *Haerlem* with a fair Wind, it is only three.

Next to the four Capitals, which I call *Rome*, *London*, *Paris*, and *Amsterdam*, *Leyden* is one of the largest and most beautiful Cities in *Europe*. It is fortified, as are all the other Towns in the seven Provinces, with a strong Rampart of Earth, and a very broad Fossé, or Canal, so that it is capable of sustaining a Siege. The Citizens are able to lay the whole Country about them under Water, as was done by Advice of the Prince of *Orange*, during the famous Siege which they sustained against the *Spanish* Army in 1574. They had Recourse to the desperate Remedy of cutting the Banks of the *Maes* and *Iffel*, by which all the neighbouring Country was turn'd into a kind of Sea, and 1500 *Spaniards* were drowned before they could retire. The besieged were reduced to extraordinary Straits, and forced to make Paper Money, which was after-

wards changed into two Pieces of Silver of different Value. They had these Legends upon them, *Hæc libertatis ergo*, and, *Pugno pro patria*; which is as much as to say, alluding to the Occasion, *These Miseries we suffer for the sake of our Liberty, and in defending our Country*. And on the Reverse are the Initials, N. O. U. L. S. G. I. P. A. C. that is, *Nummus obsessæ urbis Lugdunensis sub gubernatione illustrissimæ principis Auriaci cusus*. In English, *The Money of the besieged City of Leyden, coined during the Government of the most illustrious Prince of Orange*. Whilst great Numbers were dying of Famine, a Body of the Citizens went to *Adrian de Verf*, one of their Magistrates, and told him they must either surrender, or die of Hunger: Upon which that magnanimous Person said to them, *Friends, here I am, kill me if you please, and divide me amongst you; for it is the same Thing to me, whether I die by your Hands, or those of our Enemies*. A Year after this terrible Siege, the University was founded by the States, to reward the Inhabitants for their Courage and Sufferings.

It is called *Lugdunum Batavorum*, to distinguish it from *Lyons* in *France*. *Hengest Castle*, or the *Berg*, said to be built by *Hengist the Saxon*, as a Trophy for his Conquest of *England*, is situate in the middle of the City, in an Angle formed by the Channels of the *Old* and *New Rhine*, and is planted with Trees. From the Top of it is an extensive Prospect of the adjacent Country  
and

and Villages, the Lake of *Haerlem*, and the Downs, or Sand-hills. Some Antiquarians contend, that it was built by the § *Romans*, as a Garrison for one of their Legions. There is a Well here, out of which, it is said, the Inhabitants took a Fish alive, when the Place was almost famish'd during the Siege, that was shewn to the Enemy over the Wall, in order to discourage the Besiegers, by making their Condition seem better than it was. This Well is now dried up. It is supposed to have been the Mouth of a subterraneous Passage to *Catwick* on the Sea, which is about four Miles off.

The pleasantest Street in *Leyden* is the *Rapin-bury*. It has a fine Canal, over which are several handfom Bridges of Stone with iron Rails. Each Side of it is adorned with a Row of lofty Trees, and the Streets (as well as those of all the other Cities of *Holland*) have a small Declivity towards the Canal; so that they can never be dirty even after the greatest Rains. The Street that leads from the *Hague's* Gate to that

§ The most received Etymology of the Word *Lugdunum* favours this Opinion; *Legio* and *Dunum*, from having been the Station of a *Roman* Legion; *Dunum* signifying an Hill, or Mount. We may here take Occasion to observe the great Alterations Time produces in proper Names. At first this Piece of Antiquity was called the *Berg*, that is, *the Hill*; but it was afterwards named the *Burg*, or Town. As most Cities owe their Origin to some Castle, or Fort, as long as this stood alone it retained its Name of *Berg*; but when the Country People began to build Houses round it for their better Security, it probably changed its Name to the *Burg*, or Town.



of *Utrecht*, is very long, broad, and airy, and is the most frequented. The third principal Street is that of *Haerlem*. It has a Canal called the *Old Rhine*, upon which are many fine Bridges, that serve for Market-places to the City.

The principal Church, called *St. Peter's*, is a very large Building. The Tower, which was very lofty, fell down in 1512. and did Abundance of Damage. It was built bending, or inclining to one Side, a Piece of Architectonic Ingenuity very common in those Days. The People however, who had Occasion to pass by these bending Towers frequently, would probably have been better pleased, if the Architects of them had employ'd their Skill in a different Manner.

*Leyden* has given Birth to many eminent Persons; but to none so famous as the Taylor, *John of Leyden*, King of the *Munster* Anabaptists. The Disorders occasioned by that crack-brained Fellow, unluckily happen'd during the Change of Religion, to the no small Prejudice of the Reformation of *Germany* and the *Netherlands*. Having seized *Munster*, the Capital of *Westphalia*, *John* forced the People to treat him as King, and wore a Crown of Gold. When he went abroad, this great Monarch had always two Harbingers before him, of whom one carried a Sword, and the other a Bible. All who did not fall down, and worship him, were immediately sentenced to die, and executed. He caused one

of

of his Concubines to be put to Death for despising his pretended Inspirations. The Bishop of *Munster* besieg'd the Place, and *John* made the poor People suffer as much as *Saguntum* or *Jerusalem* suffer'd from *Hannibal* and *Vespasian*, assuring them all the while of a miraculous Deliverance. The Town was taken at last, and the mock King, with his two principal Associates, were sent in Derision about the Country. He was afterwards put to Death by having his Flesh torn off with red hot Pincers. The Table, on which this Taylor used to sit at Work, is still kept; but, in my Opinion, the Citizens might as well throw it into the Fosse, as neither the Shop-board, nor him that sat on it, can be supposed to do them any Honour: For certainly the best Thing a City can do in respect to such infamous Members, is to have them forgot as soon as possible. The People of *Leyden* have a much nobler Curiosity to shew, than this Taylor's Table: It is the fine Painting done by *Luke* of *Leyden*, representing the Day of Judgment. The Emperor *Rodolph* set so high a Value upon it, that he offer'd as many Pieces of Gold for it, as would cover it. The Hospitals here are numerous, and well taken care of. The Hall for examining and sealing of Cloth, of which an hundred thousand Pieces are said to be made here every Year, is a fine Building. The Mall lies without the *Hague's* Gate along the Canal, but is far inferior in Beauty to that of *Utrecht*.

The other remarkable Things here are; the University, the Library, and the Anatomy-hall, or Theatre, where, amongst a thousand other Curiosities mention'd by Writers of Travels, there are some *Heathen* Reliques, Idols, and two *Egyptian* Mummies, of which one is that of a King of *Egypt*, believed to be 1800 Years old. The wonderful Art of embalming and preserving human Bodies for so many Centuries, is absolutely lost; nor can we have any Insight into it from the nicest Enquiries into these dry Remains. The Physick Garden is another Curiosity. The Inscription on old *Clusius's* Tomb, like most others upon Monuments, flatters him a little. The Poet in extolling this Professor of Botany, who died in 1609. says wittily enough,

*Non potuit plures hic quærere Clusius herbas,  
Ergo novas campis quærit in Elysiis.*

*Since no more Herbs the Earth to Clusius yields,  
New ones he seeks in the Elysian Fields.*

It is certain, since *Clusius's* Time this Garden has been exceedingly enrich'd with new Plants by his Successors, and particularly the incomparable *Boerhaave*. Of all the different Branches of the Art of Physick, this is perhaps the Branch, in which that great Man took most Delight.

It were endless to enumerate all the eminent Men, who have adorned this, and the other Universities of the United Provinces, of whom  
several



several were Foreigners. *Scaliger*, *Salmasius*, *Drelincourt*, &c. were *French*; and many *Germans*; as *Spanheim*, *Grævius*, *Gronovius*, *Gerhard*, *Job. Vossius*, and *Bockelman*.

The Credit of the University of *Leyden* is at this day well sustained by a *VITRIARIUS*, who is now very old, for the Civil Law; an *S<sup>r</sup>GRAVESANDE*, for Philosophy and the Mathematicks; a *BURMAN*, for History, and the *Greek* and *Latin* Tongues, or, as they are called, the *Belles Lettres*; an *OSTERDICK* and *ALBINUS*, for Physick; and a *SCHULTENS*, for the *Hebrew* and *Oriental* Languages. *Utrecht* has lost *VANDER ODE*, an eminent Civilian, who is gone to settle at *Bremen*, as one of the Consistorial Judges of that Imperial City. *BARBEYRAC*, by Birth a *Swiss*, is still at *Groninghen*. He is the Glory of that University, and attracts many Students to it, especially such as are desirous to apply themselves diligently to their Studies. And indeed the Amusements and Avocations of that cold, out of the way, Place are neither very numerous, nor very attractive. *Barbeyrac*, in effect of his Knowledge of the *French* Literature, illustrates and enriches some Parts of the Science he professes, which are in their own Nature dry enough. He has just made a very valuable Present to the Republick of Letters. It is a Collection of the Treaties of Peace of the Ancients from the *Greek* and *Roman* Authors, illustrated with learned and curious

rious Notes, in two Volumes in Folio. It is intituled, *The History of ancient Treaties*, is inscribed to his most Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, Statholder of the Province, and may be consider'd as the first Part of the *Grand Corps Diplomatique*, in twenty one Volumes in Folio; which last Collection, vast as it is, begins no higher than *Charlemagne's* Time, *Anno Christi* 800. The *Dutch* Professors are much in the wrong to disparage the Learning of *France*, and to render it contemptible, as they affect to do, to their Scholars. There are solid Writers of that Nation, as well as of others; and it is a bad Sign, when any Body of Men, or Nation, begin to look upon themselves as All-sufficient, and above receiving the Aid of new Lights from another. It would have been incongruous, and contrary to Order, in the Constitution of the World, that any Beings of the same Species and Nature, and Inhabitants of the same Earth, should be all-sufficient, and independent of the rest. Had it been so, there had been room for an *Alphonsus* to step in, and rectify the Mistakes committed in forming the intellectual and rational World, as well as the imaginary Inconsistencies, which he thought he had discover'd in the material World. The mutual Intercourse and Dependency of every Individual of this great Family of Mankind, is one of the most amiable and harmonious Systems,  
and

and Matters for Contemplation, that can employ the Mind of Man.

As the Universities of the *Netherlands* are famous, and much resorted to by the Youth of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, it will not perhaps be unacceptable to the Reader, to give as full, but comprehensive, an Account of them in this Place, as the Plan of our Design will admit.



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*The* UNIVERSITIES *of the* United  
Provinces.

THEIR Number. **T**HERE are five Universities in the *United Provinces*. They have all been instituted since the Reformation, and endow'd out of the Revenues of the old Monasteries.

Their Foundation. The University of LEYDEN is in the Province of *Holland*, and is the ancientest, having been founded by the States in 1575. as has been mentioned before, on a very honourable Occasion, to reward the Inhabitants for their Bravery in sustaining a famous Siege of almost half a Year against the *Spaniards*.

The University of UTRECHT, in the Province of the same Name, was changed from a School into an University in 1636. but it has not all the Privileges of the other Universities, being intirely subject to the Magistrates of the City.

That of FRANEKER in the Province of *Friesland*, which is reckon'd the third in Note, was founded in 1584.

That of GRONINGHEN, the Capital of the Province so called, was founded in 1614.

And

And that of HARDEWICK was converted from a *Schola Illustris* into an University in 1648. It is in the Province of *Guekderland*, and is an ancient Building, which was formerly a Monastery.

Their Buildings. The Buildings of these Universities are old and mean. They consist only of some few Halls, which are used on publick Occasions, and for Libraries. Other Uses were formerly made of them. The Professors, who hire Houses in what Part of the Towns they please, hold their private § Colleges at home. The Students also lodge where they think fit in the University Towns. This very much diminishes the beautiful Order and Grandeur, that ought to adorn these noble Establishments. But the Want of external Pomp is well made amends for by the great Variety of useful and solid Learning taught in them. The Schools of *Leyden* are rather better and more contiguous than the rest.

Their Government and Jurisdiction. The Government of these Universities is not alike in all of them: but it would be tedious to descend to particulars on this Head. In general, the *Reſtor Magnificus* is annually chosen out of the several Faculties by turns, and with the Academical Senate has Cognizance of all Civil Causes, and in some Universities,

§ *Courses or Lectures* in the foreign Universities are called *Colleges*.

Criminal

Criminal also; in which the *Rector* passes Sentence without Appeal. The *Rector* of *Leyden* was formerly chosen out of three return'd to the Statholder, and now to the States, who are represented to the *Curators*. The *Curators* are Persons of Rank and Character: They preside at the Calls of new Professors, assist at the Funeral Orations of those that die, and are in a manner the Patrons and Sovereigns of the University.

The Academical Senate.

The Academical Senate consists of a certain Number of Professors, chosen out of the several Faculties, with the Rector at their Head. On extraordinary Occasions some of the Curators, or, if the University be subject to the City, of the Burgomasters, are called in by way of Collegues, or superior Assistants.

Habit of the Professors and Students.

The Professors, when they read Lectures, or preside in public Disputations, wear Gowns; but not otherwise. The Students wear no distinct Habits: so that the external Marks and Face of Learning are more conspicuous elsewhere than here.

Sciences which they teach.

All the Sciences and learned Languages are taught here with extraordinary Care and Success. No Science has the Preference to another: they are all equally consider'd, encouraged, and cultivated; so that in respect to extensive Learning these



these Universities far exceed those of *England*, which seem to be engrossed by Divinity.

These great Seminaries have each three or four Divinity Professors, as many of Physick, and two or three of Law; besides others of History, Languages, and Eloquence, or the *Belles Lettres*; Philosophy, Mathematicks, the *Greek* and *Roman* Antiquities, and the *Hebrew* and *Oriental* Languages.

Formerly they called in Professors, from whence chosen.

many of their Professors from the Reform'd Churches of *France*, who brought with them the Literary Riches of their own Country; now they chuse them either out of their own Clergy, or the *Scholæ Illustres*, and Universities of *Germany*. As the Encouragement is greater in the United Provinces than the Empire, the Curators have only to make choice of them. They are very rarely invited hither, till they have commenced Authors, and given Specimens of their Learning and Abilities to the Publick. Hence we may reasonably admit, that these five Universities have

in each of them a kind of Constellation of great and learned Men; especially when

They form a kind of Constellation of the Learned Men of *Europe*.

we consider the Emulation that prevails between the States of the different Provinces, which shall have the greatest Men to adorn their Universities, and attract Numbers of Students from all

Parts

Parts of *Europe*, to enrich their Towns. In order

Greatly encouraged. to engage an eminent Man to come to them, or to retain him when they have him, they do not scruple to double the usual Salary. Thus the Magistrates of *Utrecht*, to keep *Otto* their Professor of Law, advanced his Pension from time to time, from 150 l. to 300 l. and upwards; an handsome Income, without reckoning what he had from his Pupils, and the Booksellers for his excellent Works, in a State, where Prodigality is in Disgrace, and Equipage of Coaches, Horses, &c. not known amongst those who profess Letters.

There are about fifteen or sixteen Professors, one with another, in each of these Universities; near eighty in all.

Their Salaries. The Professors, one with another, have about 150 l. a Year from their Sovereigns the States, or the Magistrates, according to their Foundation. This they have over and above what they make of the Students, and their learned Labours, when they think fit to make them publick.

Thus, with an Oeconomy that becomes the Wisdom of the Commonwealth, the Sciences are maintained in extraordinary Lustre in all the five Universities at the annual Expence of about 12,000 l. which Sum, to speak within Bounds, is refunded twelve Times over to the State by the foreign Students, who come hither from all

Parts

Parts of *Europe*. In consequence, Universities, which are a great Charge to the Publick in other Countries, in this bring in a great annual Revenue; besides which, the Natives have the Education of their own Youth into the Bargain.

The Libraries are well furnish'd, and particularly rich in Manuscripts; in which last *Joseph Scaliger*, *M. Wardner*, and *Golius* were great Benefactors to the University of *Leyden*. The Anatomy Chamber is deservedly famous all over *Europe*, as is the Physick Garden for foreign Plants, brought from the *Cape of Good Hope*, and the *East Indies* by the *East India Company*; which may be consider'd as a kind of Tribute paid by Commerce to the Sciences.

The Number of Students, one Year with another, is seven or eight hundred in each of the Universities of *Leyden* and *Utrecht*; in the other three, which lie more out of the way, they are not so numerous. They all live in private Lodgings, except thirty or forty *Poles* and *Hungarians*, who have a College in each of the Universities, where they are maintained at the publick Expence, which are the only endow'd Foundations here.

The Students, as above observed, have no distinct Habits, but are almost always in their Morning Gowns, in which they attend the Colleges, and walk in the Streets and Mall without the City. Many do not dress once a Week,

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and



and some not once a Month. Dress is not at all regarded at *Leyden*, and rich Clothes are in a kind of Contempt there. In *Utrecht* they affect more Politeness, and always go abroad drest. They all wear Swords, and the Students of *Leyden*, tho' in their Gowns, cannot resolve to leave their Rapiers at home; so that were a flying Party of the Enemy to appear unawares before the Town, the Students are in some measure provided for their Defence, if their Gowns did not embarrass them too much. In those loose Gowns, with Swords on, Perukes, Hats, brown Slippers, and a Book or two often under their Arms, they make an odd grotesque Figure enough in the Eyes of Strangers, and resemble *Christian Franks* on their return from *Constantinople*, or *Smyrna*, in the same Garb they carry thither.

The Students, besides other Immunities, are exempted from Taxes on Wine and Beer; so that every one lays in a Quantity of the former, which, if the same *French* Wine the *Dutch* drink, he has at the Rate of five or six Pence a Bottle. With this they entertain one another in their Chambers, for there are no Taverns here.

The Students are sent hither by their Parents without Governors or Tutors of any kind, so that they are left intirely to themselves. They live as they please, and study as much, or as little as they think fit; and yet perhaps there are

no Universities in the World, where Sobriety and good Manners prevail so much, and where silly Frolicks and Levity are so little known. The Youth in general apply themselves to their Studies with very great Assiduity and Success. Many of them carry this to an Excess, and hear too many Lectures at the same time. It is usual, for Instance, for a Student of Law to go thro' three or four Courses of Lectures at once; as on the Institutes, Pandects, History, and Mathematicks; so that they pass three or four Hours every Day with the Professors, and as many more at home to digest, and write out their Dictates in a fair hand. Thus they hardly allow themselves Time to take a Turn in their delightful Walks, or a social Glass in the Evenings. The Students of Physick are no less industrious, and, to use the Expression, Devourers of Learning. They often hear one Lecture in Physick, another in Anatomy, a third in Botany, and a fourth in Philosophy, Mathematicks, or History, at the same Time.

It is not easy to account for the extraordinary Change made in Youth, and all Persons in general, in effect of residing some Time in these Provinces. The Force of Example was never more evident than in this Effect. Frugality in Expence, Order, a composed Behaviour, Attention to Study, and Assiduity in all Things, are the Characteristicks of the Natives; and Strangers, who continue amongst them, soon fall into

their Manners and Forms of living. What the philosophick Historian said of the *Lacedemonian* State, may in a great measure be applied to this.

“ § All *Lacedemon* was like a great Volume, of  
 “ which every Leaf was fill'd with fine Rules,  
 “ and great Examples; that presenting them-  
 “ selves at all Times, and in all Places to the  
 “ Eyes of the People, made them insensibly  
 “ contract the same Way of thinking, and  
 “ forced them to resemble what they could not but  
 “ meet with every where.”

In the Lectures, as well as on every other Occasion, the Professors shew great Care and Concern for the Improvement of their Pupils. They speak very slow, and pronounce every Word very distinctly, in order that every one, who writes tolerably fast, may not lose a Syllable; or at least, that two of them, by comparing Notes in private, may make out the whole Discourse as perfectly as it came from the Mouth of him who deliver'd it. This is of singular Use, as well as Pleasure to the Student. Besides which, the Pains they take on such Occasions, imprints Things more strongly in their Memories; and should those fail, they may always have recourse to their Manuscripts, or written Books, which they carry with them when they quit the University. Thus, besides the other Books, which the Professors recom-

§ *Plutarch. in Vit. Lycurg.*

mend



mend to their reading, they have the Discourses or Lectures of the Professors themselves, to which they may turn, when they are not satisfied with the Sense of a dead Author, or desire a farther Explanation of it.

If any Difficulties occur to the Student, he may have private Conferences with the Professors, who are extremely pleased to be consulted upon such Occasions.

The intelligent Reader will naturally suppose, that every Thing done here is in the *Latin* Tongue; and it is observed, that the Natives and Foreigners, who are taught to speak and write that Language at the Grammar Schools here, are generally better prepared, than those who come hither from *Britain* and *Ireland*.

To conclude, the Professors are treated with great Regard and Veneration by the Scholars. They are in general very well-bred humane Men, and are quite Strangers to the Superciliousness and haughty Airs too much assumed in other Places. Such Conduct and Behaviour have so strong an Effect upon the Minds of ingenuous Youth, as to make them ashamed to fall short of it on their Side, and even fond of Occasions to shew the highest Respect for their Tutors.

There are Abundance of Youth of the principal Nobility, and Princes, from most Countries of *Europe* at these Fountains of Literature. And

as every one may live as he pleases, without being obliged to be profuse in his Expences, or so much as quitting his Night-gown for Weeks or Months together; Foreigners of all Ranks and Conditions are to be seen here. As there are few Places where Students live more regular and retired, perhaps there are none, where they are under so few Restraints. No Oaths are imposed here, and not a Syllable said about Religion. *Roman Catholick, Greek, Jewish, &c.* Parents send their Children hither with as little Scruple as *Protestants*. Degrees are not so much regarded here, nor in the other Protestant Universities of *Europe*, as in those of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, where they are essential in all the learned Professions, except the Common Law.

Though 150 l. or 200 l. with what they receive from their Pupils, is a very tolerable Provision for the Professors, in a Country, where Frugality is held in Honour; they have three other Ways in their Power, not only of improving their Fortunes, but of becoming very rich. Either they have Estates of their own, which is the Case of many; or they may marry very advantageously. As there are few Nobility in the Country, Gentlemen of their Profession are held in singular Honour. They may pretend to the Alliance of the richest Families in the Commonwealth. A considerable Merchant, or Citizen, thinks his Daughter, with a Portion of  
fifty

fifty or sixty thousand Florins, 5 or 6000 l. (I speak extremely within Compass) honourably disposed of to one of them. Or lastly, they may apply to Writing. The World has so high an Opinion of their Parts and Learning, that their Works are well received in most Countries on the Continent of *Europe*. It is not to be doubted, but the States (many of whom are Persons of great Learning themselves) would make an Addition of 50 or 100 l. a Year to their Salaries, if they thought there was any real Occasion for it, and were not desirous the Professors should supply their Wants by writing for the Press, and thereby augment the Reputation of their respective Universities.

It is certain, the Muses may be too magnificently lodged, and too much at their ease; of which two of the best endow'd and richest Universities in *Europe* seem bad Proofs. Judicious Foreigners have observed, that very few Books come from them, but almost all Works of Learning, printed in their Country, from the Capital of the Kingdom.

I shall add here, that though the Provinces of *Zealand* and *Overyssel* have no Universities, they have Academies, or, as they are called, *Scholæ Illustres*, in their Capitals *Middleburg* and *Deventer*. There are five or six Masters, or Professors, at each of these Schools, not only for the *Latin*, *Greek*, and *Hebrew* Tongues, but History, Philosophy, and the *Belles Lettres*, but



especially Logick and Rhetorick. Two great Purposes, in consequence, are answer'd by these Establishments. Such as are not designed for the three learned Professions, content themselves with the good Taste of the Sciences they imbibe here; upon which, and the Languages, they bestow six or seven Years, from nine or ten, till about sixteen or seventeen: But those who propose a farther Progress, may be instructed beyond the Elements and Foundations in these Academies, and thereby make the Lectures and Discipline of the Universities easy and delightful to them.

In most of the other Cities of the seven Provinces Academies of the same kind are establish'd; and at *Amsterdam* there is a very noble one, where six Professors are employ'd to read Lectures in the several Faculties. The House was formerly the Church of the Monastery of St. *Agnes*, and was converted to this Use in 1631. There is an equally numerous and polite Audience at these Lectures; whence it appears, that the Noise and Hurry of Trade do not prevent the *Dutch* from improving themselves in the Cultivation of Philosophy, and the other Parts of Learning.

These Seminaries for the Education of Youth are Institutions between the Grammar Schools and Universities of other Countries, and are well adapted to the two Purposes just mention'd.

Country

Country Gentlemen in particular, who chuse to reside upon their Lands, and the Gentlemen of the Army, who usually enter early into the Service as Voluntiers, in order to their more speedy Promotion, here lay in a Stock of Languages and polite Learning, that raises them above the Vulgar, and with the *French* Tongue qualifies them for the Conversation of Strangers, who are very numerous in the Provinces.

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## C H A P. VIII.

*The* TOUR of the PROVINCES.

ONE of the first Things a Stranger is ask'd at the *Hague* is, whether he has made the Tour of the Provinces; a Tour made with so much Ease, both to his Person and Pocket, with such exquisite Pleasure, from the great Variety of new and beautiful Objects which perpetually occur, and in so short a Time, that there are very few who neglect to make it; but some with far less Delight and Advantage than others. This is owing to their own Neglect in not having prepared themselves for it by a little Reading and Information. With these Helps it is almost impossible to see so many diversify'd Scenes and Objects, without being agreeably entertained or improved, according to the Traveller's natural Turn of Mind, and the End he proposes to himself. The Province of *Holland* only has been often called the Compendium of the Universe: And indeed all the Nations of the Earth inhabit this small Spot; all Languages are spoke, and all the different Modes of Religion are exercised in it. The *Roman Catholick*, *Mahometan*, *Persian*, *Chinese*, and other Heathens are here to be seen at their Worship, with their Habits,



Habits, Customs, and daily Intelligence from the remotest Corners of the Globe. Here also is the Seat of Politicks, and General Assembly of all the crown'd Heads of the Western World in the Persons of their Ministers and Ambassadors; a well constituted Government, wise Laws, and an excellent Ministry, with clear Heads and clean Hands, for the Imitation of Statesmen; an unparallel'd Decency, Order, and Regularity in all Things, for Magistrates; Fleets, a boundless Commerce, with inexhaustible Methods and Secrets of Trade, for the Improvement of Merchants; well-disciplin'd Troops, and regular \* Fortifications, for the Soldier; Universities, Libraries, and a thousand Curiosities for the Entertainment of the Learned; Works of amazing Art for the ingenious and mechanical; Manufactures of all Sorts carried to the highest Perfection, for the Imitation of Tradesmen: Florists cannot fail of being most agreeably amused here, where Flowers are of such exquisite Beauty, that a Tulip-root has often been sold for 150l. Sterling: Cattle, and Country Affairs, for the Farmer; in a Word, Objects for the Admiration, Imitation, and Improvement of Strangers of all Ranks and Conditions.

The fortified Towns and Dykes, which are the Bulwarks of the *Dutch* against the only two Powers they have to fear, viz. the *French* King,

\* *Naerden, Woorden, the Brill, Helvoet-sluis*, all in the Province of *Holland*.

and

and the Ocean, are noble and stupendous Works. A *Lincolnshire* Gentleman, who had seen the good Effects of Dykes made in his own Country by *Dutchmen*, observed however so many new Improvements in those of *Holland*, that he thought the Sight of them only worth all the Trouble and Expence of his Journey. And indeed these Dykes, with their Sluices, Water-mills, and other Inventions, are amazing Proofs, how far the Art and Industry of Man are capable of controuling, and in some Sense of subduing, Nature. PITCAIRN has in several Places celebrated these § Works with a Sublimity that suits their Grandeur.

Dr. *Brown*, who wrote about seventy Years ago, when the Face of this Country was rude and unimproved to what it now is, upon his return from his Travels, says, “ Tho’ I have  
 “ seen *France* and *Italy*, and the noble Cities  
 “ thereof, which are worthily admired by all,  
 “ yet I am much surprized upon the Sight of  
 “ the *United Provinces*, especially of *Holland*, and  
 “ the adjoining Places. He who hath observed  
 “ the easy Accommodation for Travel therein,  
 “ both by Land and Water; their excellent  
 “ Order, and regular Course in all Things;  
 “ the Number of learned Men; the Abundance

§ *Tellurem fecere Dei, sua littora Belgæ,  
 Immensæque patet molis uterque labor.  
 Dî vacuo sparsas glomerarunt æthere terras,  
 Nil ubi, quod cœptis posset obesse, fuit:  
 At Belgis maria, et terræ, naturaque rerum  
 Obstitit; obstantes hi domuere Deos.*

“ of

“ of Rarities of all kinds; the Industry, Frugality, and Wealth of the People; their numerous good Towns; the extraordinary Neatness of their Buildings and Houses; their proper Laws and Administration of Justice; and their incredible Numbers of Shipping and Boats; will think it an Omission to rest in the Sight of other Countries without a View of this. A Country of little Extent, and soon travell’d over, but so replenished with People, noble Cities, fair Towns and Villages, as not to be met with upon so little a Compass of Ground, except perhaps in *Cbina*.”

The Province of *Holland* is of so small an Extent, that, with a Part of *Utrecht*, it may be travell’d over in two Days in the common ¶ Passage-boats upon the Canals. From the *Hague* to *Leyden* is three Hours; from thence to *Haerlem* four; from *Haerlem* to *Amsterdam* two more; from

¶ These Passage-boats, or *Treck Schuyts*, as they are called in the Language of the Country, go at the Rate of four Miles an Hour, stopping only about half a Quarter of an Hour at certain Villages, to give the Passenger an Opportunity of stretching himself, and taking a little Refreshment in the Inns. The Fare is about three Farthings a Mile. Thus from *Rotterdam* to *Delft* one pays five Pence, thence to the *Hague* two Pence Halfpeny, from the *Hague* to *Leyden*, which is above ten Miles, seven Pence, to *Haerlem* twelve Pence, to *Amsterdam* six Pence, to *Utrecht* thirteen Pence, &c.

The Boat is drawn by an Horse, and contains about twenty or five and twenty Passengers. It is very clean, with a Deck over it, which covers them from Rain, &c. so that they are as much at their ease, as in their own Houses. They talk, read, sew, knit, as each likes best; and do not know they are going by Water, except they look out, and see they are moving,



from *Amsterdam* to the City of *Utrecht* eight; from *Utrecht* to *Gonda* six; from thence to *Rotterdam* in the Post-waggon three; from *Rotterdam* to *Delft* two; and thence to the *Hague* one.

Some have thought, that there is no great Occasion for visiting all these Cities, their Uniformity being so great, that he who has seen one, has in a manner seen them all. But this is a Mistake, and founded in Want of Observation. For besides the different Laws, Customs, Manufactures, Branches of Trade, &c. peculiar to each City, there is a great Variety of Curiosities and other Things dispersed amongst them, which are very well worth seeing. I intend to make a comprehensive Account of all these Particulars the Subject of the remaining Sheets; but shall not enter into a very circumstantial Detail, which would be injurious to the Traveller's Curiosity, in depriving its Objects of the Charms of Novelty; besides which, that would require a Work of many Volumes.

We have already gone as far as *Leyden*, which we have particularly described, as a Place in the

moving, the Motion is so insensible. The Canals are deep, but not above thirty or forty Feet broad; and there is no more Danger upon them, nor indeed less Pleasure, than upon Canals in Gardens. The Boat has Windows on the Sides to let in the Air; from which also the Passengers may see the Country as they travel. The Boat goes off every Hour of the Day, on the ringing of a little Bell; so that one knows to a Minute, when he is to set out, and to a few Minutes, when he shall arrive at his Journey's End. Strangers are equally surprized, and charmed with this Way of travelling, as it is indeed far the most commodious, best regulated, and cheapest in *Europe*.

Neighbour-

Neighbourhood of the *Hague*. The Canal between that City and *Haerlem* has the sandy Downs, and Meadows on the left, and the Turf Pits, and the Lake of *Haerlem* on the right; so that this Stage is one of the most barren of Objects in the United Provinces. Some natural and historical Remarks may however be made even here, and the Passage, which is of four Hours, thereby render'd less tedious to the Traveller.

The numerous Herds of black Cattle, which he sees in a manner covering all the Meadows, are not the Growth of the Country; they are brought more than an hundred Miles from *Holstein* and *Denmark*. The Drover buys them there at about fifty Shillings per Head, and sells them again to the Boors or Farmers of *Holland* for four Pounds. After the Cattle have been six Weeks or two Months in the rich Pastures here, the Butcher pays at the Rate of six, seven, or eight Pounds an Head for them. It is remarkable, that the Flesh of these Oxen are neither so firm, nor their Hides so strong, or so capable of making good Leather, as those of the *English* Cattle, which is owing to the watery Feeding of the former. They are as large as the *English*, but do not weigh so heavy. Beef, the favourite Dish in *England*, is in Disgrace here, and in most other Countries of *Europe*. It is not so much as admitted to a Place on the Table in *Holland*, to the Surprize of the *English*, who wonder to see their standing Dish treated with so much

much Neglect. All the use the *Dutch* make of *Ront's Flesh*, as they call Beef, is in the Month of *November* to salt and smoke a Quantity of it according to the Number in Family, to eat in Summer with Butter or Sallad. The Ships and *East Indies* also consume great Quantities of it so prepared. The *Dutch* sometimes make Sloop of two or three Pounds of fresh Beef, with as many of Mutton, which they say makes it the better,

The *Haerlem Meer*, or Lake, of which one has a Prospect from the Canal, is very large and navigable, and lies between *Leyden*, *Amsterdam*, and *Haerlem*. It has Abundance of Fish, and particularly breeds Eels of a prodigious Size, as all slimy Waters do. It is about fourteen Miles long, and near as many broad. In hard Winters it is frozen over, and People travel on it either with Skates, or in Sleds. During the Siege of *Haerlem* there was a naval Battle upon it, in which the *Dutch* had 150 small Ships, and the *Spaniards* not many less.

It is the only Water that gains upon the Land, for every Year it eats away some on its Banks. The Reason it has not been drained long ago, is not any natural Impediment (for the Wealth, Art, and Industry of the *Dutch* can almost do any Thing they please with Nature) but political Reasons. The three trading Cities on its Banks, jealous of the Navigation which they have upon it, cannot agree amongst themselves



ſelves what to do with it. It is generally cover'd with Boats going to and fro with Merchandizes. Before the Canal between *Leyden* and *Haerlem* was dug, which was not till the Year 1657. Travellers went between theſe Places by the Lake, as many ſtill chuſe to do, when the Wind is fair. I went on it from *Leyden* to *Amſterdam* in three Hours, which by the Canal would have taken ſeven. Bad Accidents ſometimes happen upon it. Tho' it is not above fix or ſeven Feet deep, it is ſubject to Storms. One of the moſt memorable happened in 1629.

The King of *Bohemia* having been dethroned, and driven out of the Palatinate by the Emperor, took Sanctuary in *Holland*. He left *Haerlem* in *November* towards the Evening. The Night proved very dark, and the Lake tempeſtuous, when a Boat ran foul of his, and funk it directly. The King ſaved himſelf by ſwimming, but his eldeſt Son was drown'd. The poor young Prince was heard to cry out, *Ab Sir, dear Father, pray ſave me!* but in vain, the Darkneſs of the Night making it impoſſible to diſtinguiſh Objects. His Death was an inexpressible Affliction to his Royal Parents, and the Univerſity of *Leyden*, of which he was the Idol, on account of his ſweet Temper, and the Progreſs he had made in the Arts and Sciences.

The *Veens*, or Turf-pits, which the Traveller ſees here, ſeem to him very unlikely to answer the Purpoſes for which they are intended, be-

cause the greatest Part of them is filled with Water: It is however out of those very Waters, that upwards of 400,000 People, who inhabit the three great Cities on the Lake, have their Fuel.

On these Canals one may observe, that almost every Peasant and Gardener has the Convenience of a little Creek and Boat, for carrying his Commodities to the neighbouring Markets.

HAERLEM, a large, handsom City, remarkable for Variety of Fortunes in War, and Inventions and Manufactures in Peace. Travellers generally hurry thro' it too fast, few staying a Night here. There are two kinds of Curiosities in all the Countries and Cities of *Europe*, and those may be called ancient and modern. The former are so embroiled with Fable and Legend, that after much Trouble little or no Satisfaction is received from them. The other being of a fresher Date, are more certain, and give a great deal of Pleasure to those who have either heard them mentioned in Conversation, or read of them. A Man can hardly go thro' a Street of *Haerlem*, without seeing some Object that puts him in mind of the History of the Country, or of some amazing Instance of Wit and Bravery. For this reason no curious Traveller will omit observing all that comes in his Way.

The Ruins of the old Castle, wherein the Burghers besieged the Lord of the Place for his Tyranny, are still to be seen. This Siege had  
cost

cost him his Life, if his Lady had not capitulated to surrender, on Condition that she should be allowed to bring out as much of her most valuable Goods, as she could carry on her Back. In consequence she brought her Husband out upon her Shoulders, preserved him from their Fury, and left the Palace to their Mercy.

Whilst these Provinces were fighting for their Liberty, *Haerlem* sustained a very long and memorable Siege in 1573. against the *Spaniards* under the Command of the Duke *D'Alva's* Son. Historians mention almost as many Heroines, as Heroes, who defended the City. *Strada* says, that they held a Correspondence with the Prince of *Orange* by Carrier Pigeons; which being discover'd at length by the settling of one of them upon a Tent of the *Spanish* Camp, the *Spaniards* shot all the Pigeons about the Town, and put an End to it. The besieged being at last reduced to eat Leather, Grass, and every Animal that had Blood in it, surrendered the Town, and 2000 of them were put to death in cold Blood contrary to the Capitulation. Two Years after the City of *Leyden* held out a Siege against the same Enemy, not with more Bravery, though with better Success.

*Laurence Coster*, the Inventer of Printing, the best Art for perpetuating all others, had formerly a Statue with this Inscription over the Gate of the House he lived in:



*Memoriae sacrum.*  
 TYPOGRAPHIA,  
*Ars artium optima*  
*Conservatrix,*  
*Hic primum inventa*  
*Circa annum M.CCCC.XL.*

The Magistrates keep the first Book printed by *Coster*, in the Town-house. It is in a silver Case wrapt up in Silk : but it is no very easy Matter for a Stranger to get a Sight of that Curiosity.

The great Church is worth seeing on different Accounts, which are too many to be enumerated. Of this kind are the three Ships hung up in it, in Remembrance of the extraordinary Bravery of the Inhabitants of *Haerlem* in the Holy Land, at the Siege of *Damiata*, anciently *Pelusium*. For their Valour on that Occasion the following Arms were given them ; a Sword between four Stars with a Cross over the Point of it, with this Motto, *Vim vicit virtus, Valour overcomes Force*.

*Haerlem* lies between *Amsterdam* and the Sea, from the last of which it is only four Miles distant. The Inhabitants would fain have a Canal cut thither, but *Amsterdam* will not agree to it, because that would bring the whole Trade thither ; which, with other Reasons, occasions no good Understanding between the two Cities. The same kind of Jealousies prevail between all the

the Towns, and indeed the whole seven Provinces. But this wise People have hitherto been on their guard to prevent those mutual Animosities from breaking out to the Prejudice of their Peace, and the UNION. *Haerlem* therefore has subsisted by its Manufactures only; viz. Damasks, Velvet, Sattin, and other silk Stuffs, Thread, and above all whitening of Cloth, the slimy Water of their Lake being the best for that purpose of any in the Country. Most of the Linens commonly called Holland and Cambrick, vended all over *Europe*, are actually wove in *Flanders*, but sent down to *Haerlem* to be bleach'd. Great Quantities of fine Linen made in *North Britain* and *Ireland* are also sent hither by Sea for the same purpose. The Charge of whitening, and Carriage backwards and forwards, usually amounts to nine or ten Pence a Yard. Nothing has been omitted for saving so great a Charge. Bleachers, Natives of *Holland*, with their Families, have been brought over, and settled at a considerable Expence, and handsom Bleacheries made on the most likely Spots; but nothing will do, except those Artists could have brought their Air and Water along with them. However what our home Manufacture wants in Whiteness, is abundantly made up in its Strength and Durableness, and it were to be wished, that we could add also in Cheapness.

The Soil of *Leyden* and *Haerlem* is reckoned the best for Flowers, and particularly Tulips, of

which the *Dutch* were formerly fond almost to Madness; but their Taste is now much alter'd.

Without the Walls there is a pleasant Wood. The Palace built here by Count *Florence V.* is worth seeing, on account of the fine Pictures in it; particularly those of all the Counts or Earls of *Holland*; several excellent Pieces done by *Hemskirk* and *Goltzius*; but the best are those of *Cornelius* of *Haerlem*. His *Herod* killing the Innocents, his Feast of the Gods, in which *Vulcan's* Foot is highly admired, and his *Friar* and *Nun* at a Collation, are very fine Paintings. In the Summer-house in the Garden is the Picture of *Laurence Coster*, whose Birth does indeed the greatest Honour to *Haerlem*.

I cannot conclude this Article without mentioning a very remarkable Thing that happened here, and which is attested by good Writers. In 1403. a Mermaid was cast ashore by a Tempest near this City, and was brought to eat Bread and Milk, and to spin, and lived many Years. She would frequently pull off her Clothes, and run towards the Water. She could not speak, but made a confused Noise; and having learned to make the Sign of the Cross, was buried in the Church-yard when she died. Such amphibious and unnatural Spectacles are so very rare, that they are scarce credible. A Male of the same Species is mentioned to have been taken near the same Time in *England*; which was sullen, fed upon



upon Fish, and for Want of due Care stole away to the Sea again.

It is above two Hours from *Haerlem* to *Amsterdam*. About half way thither are prodigious Sluices, from which the Passengers walk about half a Quarter of a Mile to change Boats. There are few Country Seats here for want of Room, the Canal having the Lake on the South, and the River *X* on the North.

AMSTERDAM lies in North Latitude 52. 30. about one Degree North of *London*. It is about four Leagues, or twelve Miles, in Circumference, and lies on the *X*, at the Mouth of the *Zuyder* Sea, in the Form of a Crescent. It is fortified with an exceeding broad and deep Fossè, and a Rampart of Earth faced with Brick in exquisite Order, and has eight Gates.

It is justly called the modern *Tyre*, as being the most beautiful, noble, opulent trading City in the World. Strangers are struck with Amazement at the Sight of it. *London* is much larger, and more populous; but is far excelled by it in Cleanliness, Beauty, Magnificence, and Trade: I mean that kind of Trade, which is gainful, and truly beneficial to a State. Nay the *Dutch* Capital has more Ships and Trade in the Gross. The Number of Vessels in the Ports of *London* and *Amsterdam* perhaps appear equal to the Eye, but there are generally four or five hundred Colliers, that contribute to fill the former. For these twelve Years past, 2000 Sail have annu-

ally enter'd the Port of *Amsterdam*, one Year with another, and not 100 *per Month* the Port of *London*. Fifteen *East India* Men have enter'd *Amsterdam* every Year during that Term, and the valuable Cargoes of perhaps ten of them are re-exported to the other Nations of *Europe* in a great measure for ready Money. Most of the Cargoes of our *India* Ships are consumed at home in Luxury. The People of *Amsterdam* are more the Carriers of *Europe*, than the *Londoners*, the Cheapness of Freight of the former overbalancing the Advantages the latter have by their *Passes*. The chief Trade of *Amsterdam* is with *Spain*, the Straits, and the *Indies*; whereas *London* engrosses the *East India* Trade in all its Extent, to the Prejudice of the other trading Towns of the Kingdom. *Amsterdam* and *Holland* are Gainers by every Vessel they send to Sea, except those to *France* for Wine, Brandy, and Salt. *London* and *England* are Losers by every Vessel they freight, except those to the Plantations and *Ireland* (which may properly enough be reckon'd Parts of *England*) and to *Portugal* and *Guinea*. But we will carry this disagreeable Parallel no farther at present.

The Government of this City is so excellent, so well regulated, and exact, that perfect Peace and admirable Order prevail in all Things; Blessings not to be found in any other City in the World of such Extent, and inhabited by so many different Nations: A Proof of which is, that

that in some Years there are not four Malefactors executed. The Laws are no where better obey'd, nor the Magistrates and their Subordinates more revered, than in *Amsterdam*; and perhaps no where less, which we are sorry to say, than in *London*.

This great City is extremely populous. Tho' last Year, 1739. only 7507 Persons, and the Year before 7562 died in it, yet at a Medium for fifteen Years 9000 have died in it annually. In || *Paris*, for the like Term of Years, twice that Number, or 18,000, have died; from whence it is concluded, that the Capital of *France* contains about twice the Number of Souls of that of the United Provinces. In *London* about 24,000 have died; but if the Villages and detached Houses included within the Bills of Mortality are taken in, about 26,000 die there every Year. The present Number therefore of the Inhabitants of these three Capitals of *Europe*, according to the usual Method of Calculation by Deaths, stands thus: *Amsterdam*, upwards of 230,000; *Paris*, about 500,000; and *London*, about 700,000. At *Rome* no pub-

|| Monsieur *Voltaire* in the last Piece he has published, the *Essay on the Age of Lewis XIV.* tells us, That on the Accession of *Lewis XIII.* to the Throne, which was in 1610. *Paris* did not contain 400,000 Souls. But it is certain, that *Paris* at that time did not contain above half that Number. That City owes all its Increase and Glory to the last King. It is a pity Eloquence should be so great an Enemy to Fact and Exactness. Ingenious Men contend, that at this Day, even according to the *Paris* Bills of Mortality, that City cannot contain more than 437,000 Souls.

lick



lick Registers of Christenings and Burials are kept; but in 1683. M. *Auzont* computed the Inhabitants of that City at about 125,000. In 1714. Pope *Clement XI.* caused an exact Account of their Number to be taken by *S. Carraccioli*, which he made to be 104,300 Souls, including Strangers, who are generally supposed about 20,000.

The Inhabitants of the two Provinces of *Holland* and *Zealand* were long ago computed at one \* Million and an half, that is, little more than half an Acre for every Head: Whereas *England* (which, considering its Extent, is the next most populous Country in the World) has almost two and an half for every Head; and an Acre sufficing to employ and maintain a Man, *England* could maintain about twenty Millions.

The Seventeen Provinces consist in a manner of a Groupe of large and beautiful Cities at the Distance of a few Miles from each other, and must contain about six Millions of Souls; *England* about eight or nine; *France*, including the new Conquests, above eighteen; and the Empire, which, as has been observed, is extremely populous, about twenty. But to return to our Subject.

\* *L'Interest de la Holland*, Ch. 10. says, if I remember, that from Particulars taken about threescore Years ago, when that Book was published, the Inhabitants of *Holland* alone were found to be 2,400,000. But it may be doubted, whether there were then so many in all the seven Provinces.

*Amsterdam*

*Amsterdam* is built upon Piles of Fir, driven down perpendicularly into the Earth, or rather Water, so close to each other, that nothing can be forced between them. By this Means they build Houses in the Sea, and lay Foundations strong enough to support the greatest Buildings whatsoever, in Places, where no solid § Bottom is to be found. In consequence they are obliged to be at vast Expence and Labour before the first Stone can be laid, For only the Foundation of one Tower, or Steeple, a Forest, as it may be called, of 6000 Trees, and upwards, was ramm'd into the Ground. One may see Workmen employed at all Times in one Part of the City or another upon this Work of no less Ingenuity than Labour and Expence, I mean, laying Foundations. If one could see all that is under *Amsterdam*, a greater Forest could hardly be found upon the Face of the Earth; in Allusion to which, *Erasmus* says facetiously in one of his Letters, *That he was arrived in a City, where the Inhabitants lived upon the Tops of Trees:* and another Man of Wit, *That Amsterdam, like Venice, had wooden Legs.*

§ In many Places of *Holland* the Earth is so mixed and drenched with Water, as to shake when trod, or stamp'd on; so that the ancient Orator had Reason to say, That the Land of *Holland* hardly deserved the Name of Land. *Illa regio (ut cum verbi periculo loquar) pænè terra non est. Ita penitus aquis imbuta permaduit, ut non solum, qua manifestè palustris est, cedat ad nixum, & hauriat pressa vestigium, sed etiam, ubi paulò videtur firmior, pedum pulsu tentata quatitur, & sentire se procul mota pondus testetur.* Eumen. Panegyr. Constantii, c. viii.

The

The wooden Foundation of that vast Fabrick the Stathouse cost 100,000 l. Sterling. And this brings us to speak of the most remarkable Curiosities of this noble City, in respect to which we can enter into no great Detail, and therefore shall only give their Names, with a few Hints, to assist the Traveller in making his own Remarks and particular Enquiries, when he has the Objects before him.

I. The Stathouse, in the Centre of the City, fronts a Square called the *Dam*, and is a stupendious Edifice of Free-stone. It is almost a Quadrangle, being near as deep as broad; with Pavilions at each Angle. It is 110 Paces in Front, which is more than *St. Peter's* at *Rome*. The Pilasters, Chapiters, and Cornishes are of the *Corinthian* Order. The Portico's, or rather seven small Gates, have been often justly criticised, as in no wise answerable to the Magnificence of the rest. Over these, in the Centre of the Front, there is a Pediment that projects, and is a very noble Piece of Sculpture. It represents the City of *Amsterdam* under the Figure of *Cybele*, as Sovereign of the Seas, with *Neptune*, and several other Figures, emblematically alluding to the Commerce and Opulence of this Imperial City. This magnificent Groupe is a Master-piece of the kind, both for its Boldness and Workmanship, and as far excels that over the Portico of *St. Paul's*, as that Portico does the principal Entrance, or Portico's of the Stathouse.

On



On the back Front there is a *Basso Relievo*, that answers the other, and is in the same grand Taste. On the Top of it is a large *Atlas* of Brass, bearing on his Shoulders a copper Globe, much bigger than that of *St. Peter's* at *Rome*. The Stathouse is not covered all over with Statues: The few that are to be seen, are disposed with Art, and of exquisite Workmanship: They represent Justice, Fortitude, and Plenty.

The Inside of this vast Pile is no less magnificent than the Outside. One is amazed at the Sight of such a Profusion of the finest Marble in a Country, where there is not so much as a Stone, or a Pebble: For the whole Building is incrusted with Marble; Floors, Walls, Pillars, and Roof; except such Parts of them, as are covered with the finest Paintings and Sculptures. The whole is executed with such Art, that the Disposition and Workmanship far exceed the Materials. In a Vault under this Structure, the famous \* Bank of *Amsterdam*, supposed to be the greatest Treasure in the World, is kept. There is always an Appearance of infinite Riches here; as Gold

\* This Bank was established in 1609. in Imitation of the *Banco del Giro* at *Venice*. An eminent Writer now living says, that it contains above three thousand Tons of Gold, and that Sir *William Temple* did not well understand the Nature of it. *Ejus indoles non rectè a Templio percepta*, are his Words. But he would have done well, when he censured that great Minister's Account of it, to have substituted a better of his own, which however he has not given us. It is useful in two Respects: The rich deposite their Money in it with Safety, and the vastest Sums are paid by it in small Notes.

and

and Silver in Bars, Plate, and innumerable Bags of Specie. Some have pretended to guess at the Proportion between the real Treasure, and the common Opinion of it; but that is not to be settled, being the same with that of the whole City, whose Stock and Revenue equals those of some Kingdoms. The Revenue only is computed at 5000 l. Sterling a Day. The City pays 1,600,000 l. *per Annum*, for its own, and the Charges of the Province and Union, which is almost half the Taxes of the whole Province of *Holland*.

Some have computed, that the Stathouse cost 3,000,000 l. Sterling building. *Versailles* cost only 800,000 l. The Escorial at *Madrid* above 1,000,000 l. and *St. Paul's* at *London* about 1,500,000 l. There stands a Weigh-house in the Square before the Stathouse, which in some measure spoils its Symmetry; but that House brings in an annual Revenue of 10,000 l. and therefore must stand.

II. Near the Stathouse stands the Exchange. It is of an oblong Figure, larger than that of *Antwerp*, but inferior in Beauty and Magnificence to that of *London*. One is amazed to see so many ill-drest Men, whom one would think not worth a Shilling, talking of Thousands and Millions of Guilders, and of what is doing in all Parts of the World, as if they were just arrived from those remote Quarters.

III. The

III. The Churches of this City are rather neat than magnificent. They are however worth seeing, on account of the Monuments of several Admirals, their Organs, and the magnificent brass Ballusters, which are kept very bright and beautiful, and either surround the Choirs, or separate them from the *Nave*. These Churches are fifteen in Number, and have thirty Ministers equal in Authority and Revenue. Each of them has 240 l. a Year paid him by the City, out of which they give sixty or eighty Pounds only for House-rent; so that they could scarce live in this City, where all Things are so excessively dear, if they had not Estates of their own, which indeed is almost the Case of them all. They consider their Salaries only as good Helps towards maintaining them.

IV. The Assemblies of all the Religions in the World, of which the curious Traveller may visit such as he pleases: But especially,

V. The twelve great Hospitals, and other useful and charitable Foundations of this great City are not to be overlooked by him, as these Foundations have served for Models to most others in *Europe*, and as the People of all Ranks in *England* are at this Day animated by so noble a Spirit in Favour of these excellent Institutions. I shall mention the most considerable of these Houses, and such as deserve a very particular Attention,

1. The



1. The *Weesbouses*, or Hospitals for Children, in which between two and three thousand of them are maintained and taught.

2. The *Manenbouses*, or Hospitals for old Men, and such as are past their Labour.

3. The like Foundations for Women; and also for the better Sort of both Sexes, who cannot live on the Interest of their Money. For a moderate Sum the latter are handsomly maintained here for Life. These therefore may rather be called quiet and religious Retirements for the modest Poor, and such as are weary of Business, than charitable Foundations.

4. The House for exposed Infants.

5. The *Gasthouse*, or Hospital for the Sick.

6. The *Hospital*, where all poor Travellers without Distinction are lodged and entertained three Nights, and no longer.

7. The *Dolhouse*, or House for the Delirious, like *Bedlam* in *London*.

8. The *Rasphouse*, or *Tuckthouze*, for the Correction and Amendment of wild young Men.

9. The *Spinhouse*, for the Amendment of loose young Women.

VI. The Streets of *Amsterdam* are far the finest in *Europe*. They are exceeding long, broad, and straight, adorned with beautiful Canals, with a Row of Trees on each Side of them. Many of the Houses are of Free-stone, embellish'd with Columns and Chapiters of the *Corinthian* Order. The Canals are set off with iron Rails, Ballustrades,

Ballustrades, and handsom Bridges. The principal Streets are the *Heere*, *Keyser*, *Koning*, *Haerlem*, *Cingel*, &c. These Streets are never seen by the Stranger without Wonder, especially if he comes from *Vienna*, *Nuremberg*, *Cologne*, and the other Cities of *Germany*, where he sees much Filth, and no Regularity; from *Paris*, where the broadest Streets, tho' well paved, are no broader than *Lombard-street* in *London*; or from the last mentioned Capital, where the Streets are generally dirty, and the Houses discoloured with the Smoke of Sea-coal.

VII. The Bridge over the *Amstel* is admired for its Neatness, Length, and Prospects, on one Side of the Ships in the Port, and on the other of the *Amstel*, which forms a Canal in the City. It has been compared to the *Pont Royal* at *Paris*. *London* Bridge, were it clear'd of its Rubbish, I mean the two Rows of old Houses upon it, would afford a nobler View to a Stranger, than perhaps the other two celebrated Bridges put together.

VIII. Strangers usually stop on this Bridge, and go no farther; but they should walk to the End of the magnificent Key, which extends above two Miles; in which Space they would pass several, and have several Views, little inferior to those just mentioned. Under these Bridges the Waters of the Port and Canals in the City communicate, and ebb and flow every twenty four Hours. On drawing them up, Vessels of great

Further pass almost into the Heart of the City. Had a Key been run from *Limehouse-hole* to *London* Bridge, it would have exceeded that of *Amsterdam* in Length, though I would not venture to say in Cleanliness and Beauty. But had a Key, or Street, after the Fire of *London*, been made along the Banks of the *Thames*, from the Bridge to *Westminster*, it would have far exceeded any Thing of that kind *Amsterdam* has to shew, and all the *Canale Grande* of *Venice* with their *Gondolas* put together. As the *London* Side of the *Thames* lies to the South, and the few Trees in the *Temple* Walks flourish well, it is evident, that the most magnificent Groupes and Rows of them might have been raised on the Banks of that noble River.

At the Extremity of the Key of *Amsterdam* are two vast publick Buildings, which deserve a very nice Observation of the curious.

IX. The first is the ADMIRALTY. The Contrivance of this House is admirable. It is situated almost in the Water at the North-east End of the City near the *Zuyder* Sea. It consists of three Sides of a Square, in the midst of which is the Yard for building Men of War, the fourth being open to the Water. The Front is 220 Feet long, and the Wings 200. The Arms and Stores belonging to the Ships, are kept in excellent Order in several Chambers. The Keepers are shy of shewing the House, though they need not be ashamed of any Thing that belongs



to it. The so much boasted Arsenal of *Venice* is not comparable to it, though there are four other lesser Admiralties, or Docks, belonging to the Republick, besides this of *Amsterdam*. The Buildings and Docks of *Woolwich* and *Chatham* are indeed handsom, and well provided with naval Stores; but their Situation will not admit of the Neatness and Order conspicuous in the other.

There are now near seventy Men of War lying here.

The whole *Dutch* Navy at this Day consists of almost seventy Men of War here, eight at *Helvoetsluys*, eight at *Flushing*, three at *Ter-veer* in *Zealand*, and fifteen at *Horn* in *North Holland* and *Harlingen* in *Guelderland*. They have, besides these, fourteen or fifteen Sail at Sea on Convoys; in all about 118 Sail of the Line, besides Gallies, &c. of which more than \* half are in good Condition, and fit for Service.

X. A little beyond the Admiralty stands the *East India* Company's Magazine. It is a very large regular Building of several Stories. They keep the Stores and Wares, which they have not room for in their other Warehouses, here, and in the *East India* House, which is in the middle of the City. The very Air is scented

\* This true Account of the present State of the Navy may remove the vulgar Error, that the naval Strength of the Republick is now very inconsiderable. The *Dutch* are too wise a People to let their Navy go to ruin, or be reduced even to a low Condition, in Times of the most profound Peace.

with the Spices, and other Aromaticks contained in this Place, and differs from that one breathes any where else in *Europe*; so that the Passenger is apt to imagine himself in the remote odoriferous Climates of *Arabia*, *India*, and *Japan*. The Water is sometimes seen covered a great Way, though not without Regret, with Spices, &c. for the Company, in order to keep up the Markets, throw all the superfluous Stores of that kind into the River.

Behind the House is the Yard, with Docks for building Ships, Work-houses for Anchor-smiths, and all other Conveniencies for building Vessels.

This Company, notwithstanding the several *East India* Companies of other Nations, supports itself in a much envied Prosperity.

The trite Reflections, that usually occur on mentioning it, are, that it is a Republick within the Republick; that it has Kings and Princes tributary to it; that it has a more absolute Power, and greater Territories in those remote Regions, than the State has in *Europe*; that its Wealth and military naval Strength are equal to that of some Kingdoms; in fine, that the Governor of *Batavia* lives in greater Pomp and Grandeur, than his Masters do at home, &c. But the *English* Reader will perhaps be better pleased with some Observations of a more useful Nature, and more affecting his own Country; for which reason I shall transiently touch upon a few Matters,

Matters, and leave him to improve upon them as he thinks fit.

The *Dutch East India* Company is undoubtedly richer, and more powerful than the *English*; which must have arose from the many Advantages the former has over the latter.

As first, the *Dutch* Company was established many Years before the *English*, and had arrived to a Degree of Maturity, and secured proper Settlements, before the other had its Birth.

The *Dutch* Company navigate their Ships at a much easier Rate than the *English* can: They victual them cheaper; they man them with fewer Hands, and give less Pay. Four *Dutch* Vessels make the Voyage at no greater Expence than three *English*; which is very considerable Odds.

The Situation of *Holland*, not only with respect to the Sea, but the many Rivers navigable into *Flanders*, *Switzerland*, and from thence into the North of *Italy*, but especial'y into all Parts of *Germany*, gives the Exporters of the *Dutch* Commodities great Advantages; not to mention its Vicinity to the *Baltick*, by which they still supply in a great measure the North of *Europe*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, *Russia*, *Poland*, and the North of *Germany*. The *Texel*, which is the Port of *Amsterdam*, lies in a manner at the Mouth of the *Baltick*.

Time and Experience are the best Teachers of Wisdom; a Maxim, which holds good as



well in collective Bodies of Men, as Individuals. The *Dutch* Company have had the Space of an hundred and forty Years to make themselves Masters every where of all the Secrets in Trade affecting their Interest.

But the greatest Advantage that Company has over ours, is the extraordinary Care the Government takes of it. Every three Years the Affairs and Accounts of the Company are laid before the *States General*; which is done by their High Mightinesses, not with the View of prying maliciously into the Management and Secrets of its Trade, but in order to aid it with their Advice when necessary, to awe the overgrown Directors, to ascertain the Fidelity of all the Managers from the highest to the lowest, and to give the Company such Lights and Hints, as it may have Occasion for, in effect of the Conjunction and State of the Affairs of *Europe*. In a word, the *Dutch* Company is as dear to the Republick, to use the Expression, as the Apple of its Eye, and is sure of all the Favour in the Power of the Government. The Case is very different with respect to the *English* Company, From the many enormous Duties which the Government seems to have perpetuated on their Merchandizes, and which amount to little less than an absolute Prohibition; it seems a Matter of Indifference to them, whether the Company sink or swim; and yet it may be affirmed perhaps with great Truth, that our Company have  
deserved

deserved more by exporting infinite Quantities of our Woollen, Linen, and other home-made Manufactures, and by vast Advances and Loans to the Government during the last forty Years, than the *Dutch* since its Commencement. In the Year 1698. the *English* Company advanced no less than two Millions for the Monopoly of the Trade: The Commencement of the other Company was rather expensive to the State. But this Subject has already carried me too far; besides which, we have drawn a Parallel between the two great rival Companies elsewhere at large.

XI. After having contemplated this vast Magazine of the Spices, Gums, and rich Perfumes of the East, and been sufficiently sweeten'd, and in a manner embalmed alive in them, the next Step is to the *Plantagie*, or *Plantation*, where one breathes a very different Air.

Such fine publick Walks, as this Grove, or Plantation, forms, is a no less uncommon than beautiful Sight in a great City. It consists of several fine Rows of Trees, one of which some imagine to be spread by Art in the Shape of a Fan; but I could never have so discerning an Eye as to perceive such a Resemblance.

XII. The Physick Garden is reckon'd one of the best in *Europe* for Exotic Plants, and any body may have Permission to walk in it. M.

*John \* Burman*, Professor of Physick and Botany, has the Care of it, and receives the curious Stranger with great Politeness and Humanity. A very able Botanist would be puzzled to know all the Plants he sees here, very many of them having been brought from the *East Indies* in the Company's Ships.

XIII. We have already mentioned the *Schola Illustris* of this City, in which there are six Professors in the several Faculties.

XIV. The publick Musick-houses have undergone Diversity of Fortunes. Sometimes they have ample Toleration; sometimes they have Inspectors, to see that no Indecencies are committed in them, in which Case all good Company abandon them, except Strangers, whom Curiosity may excite to step in to see the Humours of the Place: At other Times, in effect of great Disorders, they are shut up. Nothing is so much to be censured in the Government of this City as the licens'd Houses, which exceed any Thing of the kind even in *Rome* itself. What the State offers in its own Defence upon this Head, is too long to be repeated here, and amounts to a stale Maxim (which has of late been revived, and set in a full Light in a formal Treatise) *viz. That private Vices are publick Benefits.*

\* This Professor is at present preparing a new Edition of *G. E. Rumphii, M. D. & in Amboina consulis, HERBARIUM AMBOINENSE, &c.* The Work will make six Volumes in Folio, and be adorned with fine Copper-plates taken on the Spot.

XV. The



XV. The *Dutch* Playhouse here is worth visiting at least once by the curious. Here they may see the Follies and Humours of human Life imitably well acted by Persons who are not Players by Profession. The House is properly the Government's: Their Officers receive the Money, defray the Charges, pay the Actors, and clear, all Expences paid, about 5000 l. Sterling a Year, for the Use of the Hospitals, and other Poor. If such a Sum is raised out of one *Dutch* Playhouse, where the Prices are so moderate, what might not be raised out of the three fine Theatres at *London*, allowing the Actors a reasonable Provision? No doubt a considerable Sum towards easing the Inhabitants of *London* and *Westminster* of the Poor's Rate, and maintaining some of the unendow'd charitable Foundations handsomely.

XVI. There still remains a Convent of religious Women, called \* *Beguines*, in this City.

\* There are many such Establishments amongst the Roman Catholics. Their Life is a kind of Medium between a secular and religious Life, which such chuse, as love a regular, but social Retirement. There are two very large and beautiful Convents of *Beguines* at *Ghent* and *Brussels*. They are about a Mile in Circumference, and consist of neat little Streets, with the Church or Chapel in the Centre. Every *Beguine* has her little Apartment and Garden, or there is one spacious Garden for them all. They have a Chaplain: They take no Vows of Chastity, &c. They employ their Time in making Lace, visiting the sick, or any other Manner they please. They wear black, with a particular kind of round cover upon their Heads plaited in the Form of a Rose, and about a Foot in Diameter. The rest of their Head-dress is of Cambrick, like that of Nuns. Whenever they marry, they quit the House. In greater Establishments of this kind the Ladies keep their Coaches, &c.

It

It is built like a little distinct Town, with a Wall and a Ditch round it, and a Church within it, where they are obliged to attend Divine Service at stated Hours. They wear a particular Habit, receive and pay Visits, and may quit the Convent, and marry when they please. They are either unmarried Women, or Widows, who have no Children; and need no other Recommendation for being admitted, but a Certificate of their good Behaviour, and that they have a Competency to live upon, either by themselves, or in Society with the other Sisters, as they think fit.

XVII. This great City being founded upon Piles of Wood, no Coaches, except to some Physicians and Strangers of Note, were formerly allowed; instead of which, Sleds made like Coaches, but slow, and uneasy in their Motion, were used. However at present they are much come into the Use of Coaches with Wheels, and drawn by Horses.

The great Defect of this City is the Want of spring Water, and if we may believe Travellers and others, the Want also of Conversation. As to the first, the Inhabitants chiefly use rain Water, which they have Cisterns to receive. The Air of the City is not wholsom, and it was frequently visited by the Plague formerly, but not since 1663. when they filled up their Wells, and began to use rain Water. And indeed had *Amsterdam* some Fountains of clear Water, a  
little

little better Air, and perhaps we may add Conversation, it would be not only the finest, as it is, but the most agreeable City in the World: But nothing can be, as *Horace* says, *Ex omni parte beatum, Happy, or perfect in every respect.*

XVIII. In almost every Corner of *Amsterdam* amazing Examples of Industry are to be seen, even in those, whose Age, Sickness, and bodily Infirmities would obtain a Dispensation from working any where else. Those who think, that the *Dutch* have more of Matter than Spirit in their Composition, may here sufficiently undeceive themselves. More surprizing Instances of Art and Ingenuity are to be observed in *Amsterdam*, than in any other City of the World. And indeed other Cities of *Europe* have had the Models of most of their useful Contrivances and Machines of various Sorts from this: I use the Term *useful*, because the Excellency of the Works of Art here consists in their Utility, all being of real Use and Ornament in Life.

Most other Nations, and even those who arrogate all Wit and Art to themselves, to the Exclusion of the rest of Mankind, excel generally in mere *Bagatelles*, Things for which they have not been ingenious enough to invent another Name than *Trifles*. What can be more extraordinary, than to turn Prisons into Houses of Industry, Sick-beds into Workshops, and to employ even the blind for the good of themselves and the Publick? The ancient Author's pretty  
Description



Description of *Alexandria*, the Capital of *Egypt*, may with great Justness be applied to *Amsterdam*.

“ \* A rich and opulent City, that abounds with  
 “ every Thing, and where no body can be idle.  
 “ Some are employ’d in making Paper, some  
 “ Glass, and others Linen: All are busy in one  
 “ Thing or another. The lame have their  
 “ Employments, the Blind their Work; and  
 “ even those, who have the Gout in their Hands,  
 “ are not suffered to be idle.”

When a Stranger is at *Amsterdam*, it is worth his while to cross over to NORTH HOLLAND, alias *West Friesland*, and make the Tour of that || small, but beautiful Spot. Formerly it was a perfect Marsh, composed of many great Lakes, separated from each other only by high Roads, or Dikes; but now nothing remains of them, except their Names and Dimensions in § Maps: They are entirely drained, and metamorphosed into one of the most delightful Countries in the World. It is full of beautiful Towns and Villages, in the midst of pleasant Gardens and rich

\* Civitas opulenta, dives, fecunda, in qua nemo vivat otiosus. Alii vitrum constant, ab aliis charta conficitur, alii linyphiones sunt: omnes certè cujusunque artis et videntur et habentur. Podagrosi, quod agant, habent: habent cæci quod faciant: ne chiragrici quidem apud eos otiosi vivunt. *Hadrian. De Alexandr. apud Vopisc. in Saturnin. c. 8.*

|| In that excellent political Writer *Aitzema*, we find, if 100 l. be to be levied, *South Holland* furnishes 89, and *North Holland* only 11, according to Agreement in 1668.

§ The *Beemster*, the *Purmer*, the *Schermer*, the *Wormer*, the *Zype*, and the *Waert*.

Pastures.

Pastures. With the Milk of their numerous Herds of Cows they make vast Quantities of excellent Cheese and Butter, which enrich the Country. Sir *William Temple* did not let this Corner escape his Observation. He says, the † *Beemster* (formerly a rotten Marsh) is so well planted with Gardens, Orchards, Rows of Trees, and fertile Inclosures, that it makes the pleasantest Landskip he ever saw. It was here, in the Hospital for superannuated Seamen, he tells us, that he met with the only rich Man he ever saw in his Life; for when he offer'd him a Crown for having shewn him the Hospital and Church adjoining, and given him a pleasant Account of his Adventures by Sea, the Man refused it, and told Sir *William*, that he had no need of Money, being plentifully supplied with all Necessaries in the Hospital. *Hegenitius* mentions a different kind of Wonder that he saw in this Town. This was a Camelion, which was kept alive for some Days, during which it appeared of all Colours except red and white. At *Edam* the Mermaid, mentioned before in our Account of *Haerlem*, was caught in the Mud by some young Women going to milk their Cows in the *Purmer*.

† This Lake was drained in 1612. after four Years Labour. It contains 7090 Acres, besides the high Ways and Dikes, that surround and cross it in several Places, and make in all 10,000 Acres.

They

They travel here on Canals, as in *South Holland*. The chief Towns are *Monnikendam*, *Edam*, *Purmerend*, *Alcmaar*, *Hoorn*, *Enckbuysen*, and *Medenblic*. The Villages are, *Saerdam* over against *Amsterdam*. It is populous and large, and so remarkable for building of Ships, and Numbers of Ship Carpenters, that it is commonly said to be capable of building as many every Year, as there are Days in it. *Schagen* lies in the North End of the Province. It is a good Village, and the adjacent Country is reckoned the richest Soil in *Europe*. *Egmont*, a fine Village, was the Title of the Counts of that noble Family. It had formerly a fine Palace or Castle, and the most considerable Monastery in the seven Provinces.

Besides the building of Ships, and exporting vast Quantities of Butter and Cheese, that vyes in Goodness with the finest *Parmesan*, this Province drives a great Trade in *Danish* Cattle, and the Herring Fishery; but as to general Trade, the Neighbourhood of *Amsterdam* effectually prevents that. The Dykes which surround this Province, are prodigiously large and strong.

The Islands \* of *Taxel*, *Fleeland*, and *Schelling*, which lie at the Mouth of the *Zuyder* Sea, belong

\* The *Taxel* is the most famous and considerable of these Islands. It is six Miles long, and four broad, and defended from the Sea by Sand-hills, and strong Banks. It contains several Villages, and a Town on the East End called *Burch*. The Inhabitants apply themselves chiefly to the Herring Fishery, and grazing great Flocks of Sheep, of whose Milk they



long to *North Holland*. This Sea, which serves for a large Port to *Amsterdam*, is so full of Shallows and flat Sands, that when I sailed over it in a Vessel of only fourscore Tons, we were frequently stranded. It is highly probable, that it was formed by some great Inundation. Ancient Authors take no Notice of it, and the abovementioned Islands lie like the broken Remains of a continued Coast.

From *Enckhuysen* there is a short Passage of three Leagues to *Stavoren* in *Friesland*, and from thence one travels by Canals to *Lewwarden* and *Franeker*, the two principal Towns of that Province.

But Travellers very rarely visit the Provinces of *North Holland* and *Friesland*. From *Amsterdam* they generally go to *Utrecht*, which is a Passage of eight Hours on a Canal, that some reckon the finest of the Province, for the Villages, Seats, and Gardens upon it: But in my Opinion that between *Utrecht* and *Leyden* exceeds it.

UTRECHT, tho' it has not one remarkable Structure, except the Steeple of the Cathedral, is however perhaps the most beautiful City in *Europe*. It is larger than the *Hague*, and next

they make excellent Cheese. The State, on account of the Importance of this little Island, which lies at the Mouth of the *Zuyder Sea*, have built a strong Fort upon it, where they have always a good Garrison. The Entrance here is no more than two Miles broad, and Part of that filled up with Sand. The Maps and Sea Charts make it broader than it is.

to it, the politeſt Place in the ſeven Provinces. *Leyden* is inhabited chiefly by Manufacturers and Tradeſmen; *Utrecht* by a ſplendid Nobility, and others, who lead a quiet and elegant Life, and live upon their Eſtates. Beſides which, it is the Capital of the Province, and here the ſovereign Courts are held. It enjoys a fine Air, and has a beautiful Country round it, with every other Bleſſing that can render Life eaſy and agreeable. The two principal Streets, which run the whole Length of the City, are the *Oude Graaft*, and the *Nieuwe Graaft*. Two fine Canals, of which the Waters are freſher than thoſe of *Leyden*; and ebb and flow with the Sea, run through thoſe Streets, and are adorned with handſom Bridges, and Rows of Trees on each Side. The *Oude Graaft* is very ſpacious and airy, full of Veſſels and Boats from moſt Parts of the Provinces. The *Nieuwe Graaft* is inhabited by the Gentry. The Grove round St. *John's* Church is charming, and the Buildings magnificent. The greateſt Part of the Cathedral lies in Ruins. Only one Iſle of it remains, in which Divine Service is performed. The Cloiſters are converted to the Uſe of the University, and ſerve for Halls, where the Profeſſors read their publick Lectures. The Steeple is very handſom, and ſo high, that there is a vaſt Proſpect of great Part of five of the ſeven Provinces from its Top, and on the South-eaſt all the Way to *Cleves* in *Germany*; not to mention fifty one wall'd Towns, which lie in a manner

manner under the Eye, within a Day's Journey of *Utrecht*. The shady Walks on the Ramparts would be highly delightful, if they were kept a little cleaner. Those Ramparts want repairing: They are so old and ruinous, that they offend the Eye, which encounters none but fine and beautiful Objects here, except them. The Students are well accommodated with private Lodgings at the Rate of a Dollar, or half a Crown a Week: The Citizens seldom ask more. They either board in the House at the Rate of a Ducat (half a Guinea) a Week, or go to the Ordinaries in the publick Inns. Most of the Students are *Bobemians*, and other *Germans*, and many come hither from *Great Britain* to study the Civil Law. Physick has in all Times been better cultivated at *Leyden*, where the Botanick Garden is much better furnished with Plants.

The most eminent Professors here at present are; for the Civil Law, *WIELING*, brought from *Franeker* last Year (1739.) where he had acquired great Reputation, to succeed *M. Otto*; for Philosophy, and the Mathematicks, *M. MUSCHENBROEK*, who has distinguished himself by his Essay on Physick in the *Dutch Language*;

|| It were to be wished, that the Author had composed his Work in the *Latin* Tongue, the universal Language of the Learned. It is perhaps the best History of Nature extant. *Muschenbroek* in many Places abandons *Descartes*, who still has many and great Followers in most Countries of *Europe*. He, as well as *S<sup>r</sup> Gravesande* of *Leyden*, have introduced the *Newtonian* Philosophy into both the Universities. The *Utrecht* Professor is however no implicit servile Votary: he



guage; for History and the *Belles Lettres*, † WESSELING; and for Divinity, ALPHIN and MILLIUS; which last is also Professor of the *Oriental Languages*, and has an extremely Rabbinical Head. He has render'd himself famous by his Edition of the New Testament in *Greek*, wherein, by the Help of Abundance of Manuscripts, he has remark'd as many Variations and different Readings, as there are Verses in that divine Book. *Whitby*, and several learned Men on the Continent have animadverted on that Work; and some of them in such a manner, as to multiply, instead of diminishing those Variations. It were perhaps no very hard Matter to compose many NEW New Testaments out of the OLD New Testament. If ever Criticism was carried to Excess, it is so here. The learned COURCELLEUS, Minister and Professor for the Remonstrants at *Amsterdam*, was

does not move a Step without a critical Examen, and a great many new Experiments, which are well described in his Book. This Work, and that of the *Leyden* Doctor upon the great *English* Philosopher, do him no Dishonour. His Opticks, which are perhaps the most finished of all his Works, are in a manner copied here.

† M. *Wesseling*, Professor of the *Belles Lettres* and History for the Years 1739. and 1740. proposes to explain *Aristophanes* in the Morning, and *Suetonius* in the Afternoon, two Days a Week; and for other History to go through the most considerable Events of the *Low Countries* and *Europe*, during the last Century: by which that judicious Man boldly and wisely strikes out of the common Track, being probably of opinion, that it is as necessary for Men to be acquainted with the History of their own Country, and of *Europe*, as with ancient Facts, and the Inscriptions of *Greece* and *Rome*.

more

more modest and judicious. His *Greek Testament* is perhaps the best extant, as well for the Authenticity of the Text, as the Beauty of the Characters. VANDEN HONERT, another Divinity Professor, is now removed to *Leyden*. The Magistrates of *Utrecht*, as a Proof of their great Moderation, have called in a *Lutheran Minister* of *Wirtemberg* to a Professor's Chair here.

*Astronomy* is not neglected in this University. The Observatory, which is on the Ramparts, is in some Respects, as the People of *Utrecht* say, preferable to those of *Paris*, *Rome*, *Greenwich*, *Berlin*, and *Copenhagen*.

M. *Burman*, Counsellor of *Utrecht*, and Nephew to the Professor of *Leyden*, has just published a § Book, called *Trajectum Eruditum*; but his taking into his Plan, not only the Natives, but Foreigners, who have made some Abode here, is a tacit Intimation, that the City and Province of *Utrecht* has not been very productive of learned Men.

The most eminent of them, as well for his good Life, as Dignity, was Pope *Adrian VI*. The House where he was born is still shewn to Strangers, and distinguished by an Inscription. That learned and honest Man, who was at the Head of the Church about the beginning of the

§ *Trajectum eruditum, virorum doctrina illustrium, qui de urbe Trajecto, et regione Trajectensi nati sunt, sive ibi habitarunt, vitas, fata, & scripta exhibens. Ultrajecti 1738, in Quarto.*

Reformation, was much inclined to do all for the good of Christianity in general, that was incumbent on him; but he was taken off in the midst of his truly glorious Designs. His Epitaph, directed by himself, argues his Humility, as well as his Refusal to change his Name, tho' born of mean Parentage. It is this: *Adrianus Sextus hic situs est, qui nihil sibi infelicius in vita duxit, quam quod imperaret: That is, Adrian VI. lies here, who thought nothing more his Misfortune whilst he lived, than that he reigned.*

Utrecht has had sixty one Bishops. The first was *Willebrod the Englishman*, who, according to *Bede*, died in 636. and was succeeded by *S. Boniface*. The Diocese was afterwards so much enlarged and enriched by *Pepin, Charlemagne*, and other Princes, as to make the Bishop of it one of the most powerful Prelates in Christendom, and enable him to make Leagues with the Counts of *Holland*, and other formidable Neighbours. It continued to be a considerable Principality, till the Time of *Charles V.* That Emperor, not approving the Donations of his Predecessors, reclaimed the Diocese, which was resigned to him by Bishop *Henry of Bavaria*. *Charles*, who some affirm to have been a Freethinker, having set this Example, a Protestant State thought it might very equitably do what a Roman Catholic Emperor had done before it. This vast Diocese is now a mere Temporality: But the States of the Province admit a titular Archbishop,



bishop, who commonly resides at *Amsterdam*. The last Prelate, who was a *Jansenist*, was a virtuous and moderate Man. His Successor, *Theodore Vander Kroon*, is no less eminent for his Protestant Principles, and very agreeable to the States. The Chapter still subsists, and is composed of a certain Number of Lay Canons, who buy their Prebends. On the Death of one of these Gentlemen, the Publick are informed by Advertisements in the News Papers, and affixed on the Gates, and other Places of the City, *That a Canonical Prebend in the honourable Chapter of St. Martin's Utrecht is to be sold to the highest Bidder*; specifying the Day and Place of Sale.

The CARTHUSIANS, who retired from the Persecution in the Roman Catholick *Netherlands* and *France*, have taken up their Residence in this City, and its Neighbourhood. They appear in a grave Lay Habit; are sensible devout Men, much inclined to Acts of Charity, without making any Distinction of Persons. They neither want Money, nor Sense to make a proper Use of it; and cannot complain, that they are forgotten by their Friends. They secretly find work for the Presses of *Utrecht*, and propagate the Principles of JANSENIUS on all Sides. Those Principles, as now improved by the modern *Jansenists* of *France*, and the Roman Catholick *Low Countries*, differ very little (the Cir-

cumstance of the real Presence only excepted) from the Tenets of Protestants.

They actually disclaim the Infallibility of any Man, allow the Pope first Bishop only, and hold that general Councils are the ultimate Resource of the Church. They admit Predestination, enjoin the Reading of the Holy Scriptures to all Christians, and think Divine Service ought to be performed in a known Tongue, and have made several excellent Versions of the Bible for the use of all People. They admit a middle State, but not such an one as Purgatory. They disclaim the Merit of Works, and place all their Hopes in the Merits of their Saviour. They condemn the temporal Grandeur of the Ministers of Religion, and wish the Adoration paid to Saints and Angels was not carried so far. They approve religious Houses and Retirements when duly regulated. They strenuously assert the Rights of Kings and Magistrates over all Persons Spiritual or Temporal, but vest the Decisions of Faith in the collective Body of the Clergy legally assembled by the Civil Power. Their own hard Treatment from the Papal, Jesuitical Part of the Church naturally inclines them to disclaim all Persecution in Matters of Religion. In respect to the Sacraments, the Difference is perhaps more about the meaning of the Word, than the Thing. Baptism and the Lord's Supper are super-eminentely Sacraments, and clearly and expressly enjoined in Holy Writ.

Marriage

Marriage is a Sign, or Sacrament, of the spiritual Union of Christ and his Members. Extreme Unction is a Sign, or Sacrament, of the Unction of the Holy Ghost, and of the Faithful's being sealed to eternal Life: and so of the rest. The Charge brought against the Bishop of *Ypres*, that he *Sanctissime ponit peccatum*, makes G O D the Author of Sin in a most holy manner, is equally to be imputed to Saint *Augustine*, the Patron of the *Latin* Church, whose very Words *Janfenius* uses in his Explanations of Grace. He even calls his Book *Augustinianus*, after the Name of that great *Latin* Father.

Cardinal FLEURY, who owes his Advancement to the Jesuits (say the *French*) cannot abandon them without Ingratitude, or suffer their Opponents to gain Ground in a Kingdom, of which the sovereign Authority is deposited in his Hands. But his Eminency ought to consider himself more indebted for any Advantages he may have, to his Prince than to the Society, and not sacrifice the best Subjects of the Kingdom, and the most strenuous Defenders of the Regal Authority against foreign Ecclesiastical Usurpations.

*Janfenism* is now at a low Ebb in *France*. The learned and pious Bishop of *Montpelier* is dead. The Bishop of P A M P O U L, and two more Prelates, chose to resign their Sees, rather than accept the Constitution *Unigenitus*. The Court, enraged at that seditious Step, as they called it,



commanded them to resume their Functions; but they desired to be excused, and retired to lead a Life of Devotion. M. ROLLIN, Author of the Ancient and *Roman* Histories, and the Manner of teaching and studying the *Belles Lettres*; CONTURE and DE JAYE, who have done great Honour to their Party by their excellent Writings, are now very much advanced in Years, and must soon quit the Stage. In the Roman Catholick *Netherlands* they are treated on no other Foot than as *Hereticks*. The Primate of *Mecklen*, and his faithful Coadjutors, the Suffragans of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, search them out, and drive them from their Parishes and Convents with all the Fury of Inquisitors. In the other Roman Catholick Countries, which are entirely devoted to the See of *Rome*, the Name of *Jansenist* is not known.

When *Lewis XIV.* had his Head Quarters at *Utrecht* in 1672. and 1673. he admired the Beauty of the Walks, and particularly of the Mall, so much, that he gave strict Orders to his Soldiers not to spoil them. His Army was almost a Year and an half here, during which he made the City and Province pay by way of Contribution upwards of 200,000 l. Sterling.

But what will perpetuate the Fame of this City, is the *Union of the Seven Provinces*, the Foundation of which was laid here in 1579. It was also the Scene of another Treaty of a very different Nature. It is to this unhappy Treaty,  
amongst

amongst other Things, that Great Britain owes many of the Difficulties she has since struggled with, and the Dangers she may be exposed to for the future; not to say, that by that Transaction she has extremely hurt her Credit with her natural Allies, who have since openly declared, for that Reason, amongst others which we must pass over in Silence, that they dare not trust her. The World expected, that the Effect of our glorious Victories would at last have been the divesting the *Grand Monarque* of the Conquests he had unjustly made upon his Neighbours during the long Course of his Reign. But by this Peace he was left in possession of all he was suffer'd to retain by the Treaty of *Ryswick*; in effect of which, the immense Treasures expended, and the numerous and great Successes of the War, instead of proving beneficial, have already been, and may still be much more pernicious to *Europe*. Had that fair Opportunity been taken for reducing the only formidable Power *Britain* has to apprehend, how easy and prosperous might the Nation have been, with the least Attention to her Interests, and any Degree of good Policy; and how much superior to the Insults of *Spain*, or any Power upon Earth that dare molest her!

Without the Walls of *Utrecht* there is nothing to be seen but beautiful Walks, Gardens, Canals, and, which is still a greater Wonder, arable Land. The Corn soon ripens here, the  
Soil

Soil being sandy, and so light, that the Husbandmen in many Places use little Ploughs with small Wheels, which probably are as commodious as the new kind of Plough invented by the Marquis *Del Borri*, on which he has wrote a Dissertation in *Italian*. By the Means of this Machine, he pretends, that a Man, or even a Woman, may easily plough the Ground without Oxen, or Horses. After having seen the Ploughs used here, there is no room to doubt the Possibility of the Marquis's Invention.

The MALL of *Utrecht* is reckon'd the finest in *Europe*. On Sunday Evenings in Summer it is full of very fine Company. It is about three Quarters of a Mile in Length, and has four parallel Walks on each Side adorned with Rows of high Trees, which are kept in excellent Order. At the farther End of the Mall there is a grand and charming Vista to the Ramparts, upon which is a Tree cut pyramidically, that fronts the Mall, which lies without the Walls.

About a large League out of the City, on the Canal that leads to *Amsterdam*, lies *Zeijlen*, a pleasant Village; and a League farther *Maerssen*, chiefly inhabited by *Portuguese Jews*. It is a very beautiful and splendid Village. There are so many fine Houses and Gardens on both Sides of the Canal, that one is at a Loss which to admire most. The Lord *Van Maerssen's* House and Gardens here are perhaps the most magnificent



ficient in the seven Provinces. They lie full in the Passenger's View from the Boat. In the great Suburb without the *Weert Port* are very fine Gardens of a private Gentleman, who takes Pleasure in shewing them to Strangers. In them there is the finest Mosaic and Shell Work in triumphal Arches, Temples, and Grottos, that ever I saw.

The Canal between *Leyden* and *Utrecht* is about thirty Miles in Length, and the noblest in the *Low Countries*. The Boat goes and comes three Times a Day in Summer, and twice in Winter. The Passage is only about one and twenty Pence *Englisch*. Every Hour or League is distinguished either by a pretty Village, Fort, or Town. *De Meeren* is the first Village, and *Harmelen* the next, where Professor *Burman* has an House, which he has celebrated in a fine Oration, intituled, *De domu rustica*. A League farther, or three from *Utrecht*, lies *Woerden*, a good Town, and one of the finest Fortifications in the *Netherlands*. It lies in *Holland*, and is the Key of that Province on this Side. It is fortified with a double Rampart and Fosse, which are kept in such admirable repair, that it is worth the curious Traveller's while to go thither to see it, if he has any Taste that Way. *Bodegrave* lies a League and an half farther, and is reckoned half Way; but before one comes to it there is another neat Fort on the Left,

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As these Places are remarkable for some very singular Events in the War of 1672. they shall, with the Reader's Leave, detain us a little. The *French* had meditated a sudden Irruption into the Province of *Holland*, in order to surprize *Amsterdam* and the *Hague* on the first Frost. At length a very hard one happened, and about Midnight the Duke of *Luxemburgh* march'd out of *Utrecht* towards *Leyden* with sixteen thousand Men; but an happy Change of Weather ensued, and saved the Republick. The Moment those Troops set out, a Thaw-wind began to blow very fresh from the South; however they continued their March till Day-light, and arrived at *Bodegrave* and *Swammerdam*, which they carried not without Difficulty. Here they were obliged to stop, and committed various Disorders unavoidable on such Occasions. The Question now was, how the *French* should get back, the Ice being dissolved to about the Depth of three Feet of Water. If they marched by the Dike, they must pass thro' the Fort mentioned above. One *Painevin* was in it, with two Regiments, and some Cannon; but he abandoned it, and retired to *Gonda*, so that the *French* got safe back to *Utrecht*. The Prince of *Orange* appointed a Council of War to try him. He pleaded, that the Place was not tenable, and that he left it at the Desire of the Town of *Gonda*, in order to save the latter. Upon this Defence he was acquitted as to his Life, but condemned to Banishment,

nishment, after having his Sword broke over his Head. He appealed to a Council of War, but they confirmed the Sentence. The Towns of *Holland* were highly displeased with the Lenity of those Proceedings, and thought *Painevin* deserved Death. The Prince, in Compliance with their Instances, brought him to a third Trial before himself, and a Court of the principal Officers, assisted by six Judges. *Painevin* refused to stand to a third Trial, as contrary to Martial Law; but he was over-ruled. It was urged against him, that he was present in the Council of War, which ordered that Fort to be made; that he knew it was not intended as a Place tenable against an Army, but only to make a little stand for some time in a desperate State of Affairs; and therefore that he ought not to have quitted his Post on account of the Danger he was in: That he must see it had began to thaw, and ought to have stayed at least till he saw the Event of it; and lastly, that being ordered thither by the Prince, he was to receive no Orders but from him. Upon these Grounds he was condemned and executed, to the great Satisfaction of the States. As this Trial is not inconsiderable, and has by some been objected to King *William*, as an arbitrary Act, contrary to the Forms of Discipline, we thought it not amiss to relate it at large; from whence it is evident, that Necessity, and not Choice, obliged the Prince to lay aside the usual Forms

on



on an Occasion, in which the All of the Republick was at stake. It was indeed natural enough for the Officers to take offence, when they saw the ordinary Council of War over-ruled, and a Precedent for a new Method of proceeding introduced.

From *Bodegrave* there is a By-passage on a Canal to *Gonda*, and from thence the Post-waggon goes to *Rotterdam*. The first Stage is two long, and not very agreeable, Leagues; the other, which is three Leagues, price fifteen Pence, is made on so high and narrow a Dike with deep Trenches on each Side, that one travels in perpetual Dread. However I never heard, that any bad Accident happened upon it. But to proceed on the Canal to *Leyden*.

*Swammerdam* is half a League farther. This Village and *Bodegrave* suffered not a little from the *French*, tho' perhaps not quite so much as the *Dutch* Writers have represented: their Exaggerations however answer the Purpose of keeping up the People's Hatred and Animosity to the *French*. They indeed committed various Disorders, of which great Pains were taken to spread Reports throughout the Provinces; and it was not long before an huge Book was published, setting forth the Barbarities and inhuman Cruelties committed on the Inhabitants of those two Villages. To make the Relation still more horrid, this Volume was adorned with Copper-plates, representing Gibbets, Racks, Spits, and the

the Villages all in Flames. These Stratagems had their desired Effect. The *Dutch* resolved not only to venture, but lose every thing, rather than submit to the Yoke of such cruel Masters.

One League farther lies *Alphen*, which I conceive the largest and best built Village in the Country. It is about a Mile long, and situated on both Sides of the Canal; but that on the South is the finest, tho' not the Side thro' which Passengers walk to meet the Boat at the other End of the Place. They have however Time enough to view it, which they may do by going over the Draw-bridge. The Lord *Van Alphen's* new House, and several other fine Seats and Gardens, adorned with Statues, Fountains, Bassons, Shell-work, and a thousand pretty Decorations, are seen from the Canal. The *Dutch* Antiquarians suppose *Alphen* to be *Antonine's Albiniana Castra*, or the Camp of *Alphenus Varus*, the *Batavian* General, mentioned by *Tacitus*. It may be so for ought that I know to the contrary; but I believe the Passenger will be more Intent upon its present Beauties, than the uncertain Conjectures of Writers about what it was sixteen hundred Years ago.

It is three Leagues from *Alphen* to *Leyden*. *Romburch* lies between them. This Village is more celebrated for its Antiquity than Beauty, tho' it is not without the latter Recommendation. *Velferus* calls it *Prætorium Agrippinæ*. Many Ro-  
man

*man* Coins of Silver and Brass, and ancient Statues have been found in it.

We come now to consider *Utrecht* from another Side. By means of the *Vaert*, a large Canal, which communicates with the River *Leck*, the City and Province of *Utrecht* enjoy a good inland Trade. Vessels of considerable Burthen come up to its very Gates. Several fine Seats lie upon and near this Canal. *Rotsoort* is famous for its Rock-work. *Heemste* is also visited by the curious Traveller. *Iselstein* is a good Town belonging to the Prince of *Orange*. It has a Castle, and a very pretty Mall on the Ramparts, darken'd by the thick Shade of the Trees. The Town is in the Province of *Holland* on the River *Yssel*. *Vreswick*, or the *Vaart*, is well built, and lies on the *Leck*, over which is the Passage to *Vianen*. That Town formerly belonged to the noble Family of the *Egmonts*, which is now extinct. The fine Castle and Gardens that lay on the River, have long been in Ruins. The Town consists chiefly of one handsom broad Street. The Wood and regular Walks cut thro' it, are very fine. It was formerly an Asylum for poor Debtors; but the States of *Holland* purchased it about fourteen Years ago, to its no small Detriment; for Persons under Misfortunes take Refuge now at *Culenburg*, another free Town, which lies also on the *Leck*, two Leagues from *Vianen*. This last Place is large, and has a great weekly Market: It is surrounded with  
pleasant



pleasant Fields and shady Walks, so that the Inhabitants have no reason to complain of their Confinement. Most of those Fugitives are from *Amsterdam*. And indeed the Place is so well built, and has such an air of Gaiety, and Abundance in it, that it reflects no great Honour upon the so much boasted Probity of the *Dutch*.

Two Leagues farther lies *Buren* in the Province of *Guelderland*. It is a small, but neat Town belonging to the Prince of *Orange*, and gives Title to the eldest Son of the Family, who is called the Count of *Buren*: but such has been the Infelicity of that illustrious House in respect to Children, that I do not recollect more than one or two, who have borne that Title. The Town lies in the midst of rich Pastures and Corn-fields, and is fortified with a Rampart and Fossé of Earth. The Castle, which is separated from the Town by a Grove of Trees, is also strong, and its Fortifications are kept in good repair, as are all the Towns and Castles belonging to the Prince of *Orange*. They are all tenable for some time, and may be of considerable Service in Times of War. The Fortifications, if we except those of *Breda* and *Williamstadt*, are all kept in repair at the Prince's Expence; but that seems light to him, as they may be of Service to his Country. Two Years ago their Serene and Royal Highnesses came to *Buren*, and lodged in the Castle. They took it in their Way from *Breda* to *Dieren* and *Loo*. There is

a noble Hospital here for poor Children, founded in 1614. by a Princess of *Orange*. On a beautiful Fountain of Marble erected in the middle of this Town in 1732. there is this Inscription, *Grassante flamma sum civibus solatio*. I had almost forgot to observe, that Geographers have placed a Village, with a Church, about half Way between *Culenbergh* and *Buren*, and called it *Boesfechem*; but there is no such Place in Being, nor even any Traces of it. There is indeed a Village, which they rightly place between *Soelmont* and the *Leck*, called *Beufecum*, where there is a noted Passage over the River. If such gross Geographical Errors and Falsifications be committed so near home, and in one of the most improved and exact Nations in *Europe*, what Credit can we give the Maps of the more distant Parts of the World? It had been easy for me to have observ'd every where considerable Errors in the Maps, and the best modern Books of Geography, tho' none of so gross a Nature as that just mentioned. Not far from *Buren* lie three pretty Towns; *Leerdam*, *Asperen*, and *Hockelom*; the first of which belongs to the Prince of *Orange*, who is Sovereign of a great Extent of Territory in the *Betaw*, and also in *Dutch Brabant* and *Gueldres*, that border upon it.

*Wyk te-dearstede* is four Leagues South-east of *Utrecht*: It is a flourishing Town on the *Rhine*. The Way to it is thro' a populous rich

rich Corn Country. The Banks on both Sides of the *Rhine* here are so well planted with fertile Orchards, that the Owners cannot vend them, but sometimes feed their Hogs with the Apples. They drive those Animals under the Trees, which they shake, and the Swine feed on the Fruit that falls. The *Crommer*, a Rivulet, that runs between *Wick* and *Utrecht*, has many good Villages and Seats upon its Banks.

But the Road that abounds most with fine Seats, is that from *Utrecht* to *Rhenen*, which is seven Leagues; and from thence to *Arnheim* is five more. The *Bilt*, *Vollenhoven*, *Zeyst*; which last is two Leagues from *Utrecht*, and belongs to one of the Counts of *Nassau*. It is a very beautiful noble Seat, adorned with Gardens, Waterworks, Statues, and an Avenue of three Miles in Length, as straight as a Line. It forms a noble Vista to an Obelisk, that stands at the farther End of it. Besides which, the House or Palace is of modern Architecture, a Thing rare enough in this Country. *Driebergen* belongs also to the same Nobleman, or rather to his Brother. *Odyk* lies on the *Crommer*. *Doorn*, *Leersum*, and *Zuleyslein* are the Earl of *Rockfort's*. *Amerongen* belongs to the Earl of *Aiblone*, who is General *Ginckel's* Brother, the States Minister at the Court of *Berlin*. The Town of *Wageningen* lies between *Rhenen* and *Arnheim*.

North of *Arnheim* are the following fine Seats or Palaces at the Distance of only a Mile or two

D d 2

from



from each other. *Rosendal* belongs to a private Gentleman, who has expended his yearly Revenue to render it a *nonpareille*. *Middagden* is General *Ginckel's*, who in 1738. had the Honour to entertain in it the King and Prince Royal of *Prussia*, and the Prince and Princess of *Orange* at the same Time. *Dieren*, one of the Prince of *Orange's* Hunting Seats. *Voorst*: it belongs to the Earl of *Albemarle*. King *William* gave it to his Father. It is a neat House, and conveniently situated for hunting.

*Loo* is a noble Structure of Modern Architecture, with fine Gardens, shady Walks, Grottos, and admirable Fountains, especially one called the *Bason of Venus*. It has also two great Cascades, where the Water falls so easily from one *Bason* to another, that the whole resembles one ample Mirror. *Loo* lies in the midst of Forests and Heaths, which make it very proper for an Hunting Seat. The late King *William* took great Delight in this sweet Abode, and its rural Exercises: It is also the favourite Seat of the Prince and Princess of *Orange*. The Cities of *Zutphen* and *Deventer* are in the Neighbourhood of *Loo*: A Description of them may be found in the common Books of Geography. There is another Way to *Loo* by *Amersfort*: It is twelve Leagues thro' a sandy unpleasant Country; wherefore I think the fine Road just described by the Way of *Rhenen* and *Arnheim* much the most eligible. *Soesdyke*, another Pa-  
lace

lace belonging to his Highness, is almost four Leagues to the North of *Utrecht*, and well worth seeing.

*Nimeguen*, the Bulwark of the United Provinces on this Side, is only two Leagues from *Arnhem*; from thence to *Cleves* in Germany is four Hours more; a small City, but famous for its fine Air, Plantations, and shady Walks.

The direct Road from the *Hague* to *Brussels* and *Paris* is by the Post-waggon, which sets out from *Charloos*, a Village on the other Side of the *Maes* over against *Rotterdam*. That Machine carries you to *Breda* or *Antwerp* in a Day for a Pistole. But if the Wind serves, it is better to take the Boat from *Rotterdam*, which arrives at *Antwerp* in twenty four Hours: the Passage costs one Gilder. From *Antwerp* to *Brussels* takes half a Day either in the Stage, or by Water, partly on the *Scheld*, and partly on a beautiful Canal. From this last City the *Diligence*, or Flying Coach, goes in three Days to *Paris*: the Passage costs about two Guineas. *Valenciennes* is the most considerable Town on the Road.

To go to *Spaw*, or *Aix la Chapelle*, the Method is to take the *Brussels* Stage for *Louvain*, which is four Leagues; and from thence the *Diligence* goes in one Day to *Maastricht*, or *Liege*. Most Travellers take *Maastricht* in their Way first; and indeed that City is well worth seeing, besides its being so much celebrated in the military Histories of the *Low Countries*. A Boat

goes off every Morning from hence to *Liege*, which lies only five Leagues higher on the *Maes*. It is drawn by four Horses, which are obliged to swim a considerable Part of the Way with Men on their Backs. The Horses being used to it, perform the Journey with no great Difficulty. When the Wind as well as the Stream is against the Boat, the Passage seems tedious to some; though, I own, I never could think it so; the various Scenes on this famous River being so beautiful.

The Country of *LIEGE* is large, pleasant, and fruitful. No Bishop and Clergy any where are more at their Ease, or more nobly provided for than here. Almost the whole Country belongs to them. The States are composed indeed of the Bishop, Clergy, and Gentlemen of the Country; but tho' the latter defray one third Part of the Expences of the Government, they are not possess'd of the twentieth Part of the Territory. I travelled thro' the whole Country in 1739. *viz.* from *Venlo* to *Spaw*, and saw only two new Houses building by Country Gentlemen. Two neighbouring Convents had a right, it seemed, to the Fruit of the Orchards, the Wooll, and Part of the Flesh of the Sheep that grazed in the Inclosures, the Fish in the new-made Ponds, and the Ground, upon which these Gentlemen were building their Houses, and making these Improvements,



provements. Upon this Occasion I could not forbear repeating to myself *Virgil's*

*Sic vos non vobis vellera fertis oves.*

The Peasants are very poor and naked, tho' they live in a Paradise of Plenty and Pleasure. They are courteous, good-natur'd Creatures, and their Masters must have Hearts of Stone to use them as they do. The Gentry are a civil, open-hearted kind of Men, and give into the same Complaints as the Peasants, but with more Vivacity.

LIEGE is a vast City: It lies in a delightful Valley on the Banks of the *Maes*. It is surrounded with high Hills cultivated to the Top with fine Vineyards, and water'd with several beautiful Rivulets that fall down into the River. The Episcopal Palace, which was lately burnt down, is rebuilt in the most exquisite Taste, and with amazing Magnificence. The Inscription that is already put up over the grand *Portal*, says, that the Palace was rebuilt at the Charges of the Bishop, Clergy, and City of *Liege*.

The Bishop, or Prince, for he is generally called by the last Title, was chose in 1724. by the Chapter, against mighty Competitors. He was of the Chapter, and is a Native of *Brussels*.

The Inns here are incomparable. The Wines excellent and cheap, as are all kinds of Provision; so that few Strangers, who visit this

Country and City, but think they could pass their whole Lives most agreeably here; and indeed not a few have chose to do so. The only Inconvenience is the Language, which is neither *High Dutch*, *Low Dutch*, *Flemish*, nor *French*; but a Mixture of all four, this Territory lying in the very middle of the Countries, where those Languages are spoken.

The *English* Jesuits are well accommodated with an House; which lies on an Hill, and commands the finest Views; the City and River below, and the Vineyards on the opposite Hills. Their Garden is described by *Misson* perhaps to Advantage, tho' neither he nor any Author can say too much, when they express the Beauty and Grandeur of its Situation, and of the Convent. It is well worth the Stranger's while to visit this Society, with whom no other Introduction or Apology is necessary, than the Curiosity of a Traveller. As they are all Gentlemen, and Persons, who have made a Figure in the polite World, *in the Days of their Vanity*, they receive those who visit them, with Abundance of Politeness. One even finds an Openness in their Manners, which is more the Characteristick of their Nation than of their Order. As several of them have been bred in the Profession of Arms, and Employments foreign to the Study of Letters, their Library is but moderately furnish'd, and they devote themselves more to the Duties of Religion, than to writing, and abstracted Erudition:

dition. They are so well-bred, as never to touch upon Controversy; and do not receive Persons the worse for not bowing to the Crucifixes, which frequently occur in surveying the Convent. To render one's self the more agreeable to them, the Traveller would do well to have the freshest News from *England*, and to relate it without Prejudice or Disguise. The Conversation generally turns upon that Subject, the Country of *Liege*, the Waters of the *Spaw* and *Pyrmont*, and upon the Happiness of Retirement from the World.

From *Liege* to SPAW is eight Leagues, and from thence to *Aix la Chapelle* seven.

Those who chuse to return by the Way of *Calais*, where the Sea is only seven Leagues, or twenty one Miles over, may take a View in their Way of the strong Towns in *Brabant* and *Flanders*. The Route is on the River *Maes* to *Namur*, which is nine Leagues. *Huy* is half Way. To *Mons* ten Leagues. To *Tournay* five. To *Lisle* four. To *St. Omers* eight, and from thence to *Calais* five. All these Stages may be gone either in the Stage Waggon, or Post Chaises. The Passage from *Calais* to *Dover* costs a Crown; but if the Passenger takes a Bark to himself, two Guineas. From *Calais* the lofty white Cliffs, upon which *Dover* Castle stands, are seen. If the Wind be fair, the Passage is only three Hours, so that one has scarce Time to be Sea-sick.

The usual Manner of going from the *Hague* to *London*, is either by the Packet Boat, or the  
*Englisch*



*English* Sloops at *Rotterdam*; of which last we have given an Account above. The other is the most expeditious, and best Passage. You take Chaise at the *Hague* for *Maeslandsluice*, which is three Leagues, and where there is a good Inn. Here you cross the Mouth of the *Maes*, which is almost half a League over to the *Brill*. The Packet Boat formerly came hither; but *Helwoetfluyts* has been found to be more commodious, having a greater Depth of Water. Those who have an Hour to spare here, may employ it in viewing the Fortifications of the *Brill* and *Helwoetfluyts*. As those Places are only a League and an half from each other, if the Weather be good, as the Road is, it is more Pleasure to walk it than go in the Stage Waggon, which is no very agreeable Vehicle. There are *English* Inns here, but I can recommend none of them, and have always found it best for a Stranger to take up his Quarters in the good Inns of the Country thro' which he travels. As to those of *Holland* in particular, which undeservedly lie under so bad a Name, if you eat at the Ordinary, or in case there be none, at the Landlord's Table, you are never imposed upon; the Prices, considering the vast Taxes upon every Thing, are moderate enough, and fixed and unalterable, like the Laws of the *Medes* and *Persians*. There indeed happen Occasions, in which the *Hofpes*, as he is called, may over-reach one, but those rarely occur.

There

There are four Packet Boats, each of about fourscore Tons Burthen, with eight Men, including the Captain. They are strongly built, being oblig'd to go to Sea in all Weathers, when others dare not venture out. The Passage is six Guilders, or about 12 Shillings, and the Cabin a Guinea, which can accommodate eight or nine Passengers; and the Captain, to his great Satisfaction, has often that Compliment. These Boats go off twice a Week, Tuesday and Saturday in the Afternoon, or at farthest early the next Morning. From *Helvoetsluis* to *Harwich* the Passage is ninety Miles, and with a fair Wind is performed in twenty Hours.

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